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Syria welcomes Jordan's decision

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The central leadership of the National Progressive Front of Syria Monday welcomed Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the Israeli-occupied West Bank and said the Jordanian move had thwarted Israeli plans for an alternative Palestinian homeland as part of Zionist efforts to liquidate the Palestinian cause. A statement issued after a meeting of the central leadership chaired by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said the Jordanian decision, "which came in compliance with Arab summit resolutions, has reaffirmed the role of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people." The statement called on Arab states to shoulder their responsibilities collectively and individually in the event that the Palestinians in the occupied territories face problems and additional burdens as a result of the Jordanian decision and to find appropriate solutions to the problems.

Arab team, London discuss Gulf

LONDON (R) — An Arab League delegation led by Foreign Minister Tabet Al Mada held talks on the Gulf war ceasefire with the British Foreign Office Monday. The delegation expressed the views of the Arab League about the following up to the ceasefire in the Gulf, a Foreign Office spokesman said. He added that Britain reiterated its commitment to the full implementation of United Nations Resolution 598 and expressed the hope that talks following the ceasefire would be successful. The spokesman said the delegation, which included Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibbi and the Jordanian and Iraqi ambassadors to London, was visiting Britain because it was a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council. The Jordanian ambassador said the delegation had just been to Paris and was heading home. Another delegation was due to go to Moscow. A third delegation led by Saudi Arabia met U.S. officials last week.

2 more Arabs fall martyr

Gaza boils with protests despite siege

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) — Palestinians defied a round-the-clock curfew in the Gaza Strip Monday, throwing stones and burning scores of tyres in the streets, and Israeli soldiers shot dead a protester in the occupied West Bank.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Monday his order confining 650,000 Palestinians to their camps until further notice was a "clear message" that Israel was cracking down on the eight-month-old Palestinian uprising.

The Gaza curfew was imposed Sunday night, following violent protests in which at least 21 Gazans were wounded by Israeli gunfire.

Reports said protests began after Islamic fundamentalists in Gaza called for clashes with troops, to protest against the death of two Gazans killed in an arson attack near Tel Aviv last week. Palestinians blame Israelis for the attack, although police have made no arrests.

The demonstrations were also sparked by the killing of a Palestinian in the Mughazi refugee camp Thursday night and the death Sunday of a Shati refugee camp resident, whom Palestinians said was beaten by troops.

Eyewitnesses quoted by Reuters said people filled the main roads of Gaza City with burning tyres and soldiers carried out mass identity checks in the refugee camps.

At an entrance to Gaza, an Israeli officer showed reporters cardboard impregnated with pieces of nails, which he said was put in the main streets by protesters to puncture the tyres of Israeli cars.

(Continued on page 5)

King hails Iraq's Arab defence

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein opened formal talks here Monday shortly after the King's arrival on a working visit.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King congratulated the Iraqi leader over Iraq's victory in the eight-year-old war with Iran and that both sides affirmed that the Iraqi

victory would reflect positively on the present and future of the Arab Nation. The King said that the Iraqi victory "enhances the stability of the Arab Nation and its abilities to confront challenges in legitimate defence of its existence, security and sovereignty."

President Hussein paid tribute to the national pan-Arab stand adopted by the King, government and people of Jordan and their support for their Iraqi brothers.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein, Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad and Prince Ghazi Ibn Mohammad, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh. On the Iraqi side, the talks were attended by Deputy Prime Minister and member of the Revolutionary Command Council Taha Yassin Ramadan, Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, Information Minister Latif Nassif Jasseem, Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah, Industry Minister Hussein Kamel and senior aides to the president.



His Majesty King Hussein Monday confers with Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim in a meeting attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo)

Algeria, Jordan consult on regional developments

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on current Arab and international affairs.

The message was conveyed to the King at Al Nadwa Palace by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Al Ibrahim who arrived here Sunday evening, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. The message also contained the

Algerian president's appreciation of King Hussein's active contribution to the successful Algiers Arab summit. Petra said.

Ibrahim, who left Amman later Monday, told Petra in a departure statement that the message he delivered to the King dealt with regional developments and was part of constant consultations between His Majesty and President Benjedid.

PLO delegation arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (Agencies) — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) team arrived in Cairo Monday after talks in Amman over Jordan's rupture of ties with the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

"We feel great relief at the outcome of the talks... they have helped to quell major fears raised by Palestinians in Jordan and the West Bank," an official of the team told Reuters before leaving Amman for Cairo.

On arrival in the Egyptian capital, PLO Executive Committee member Abdullah Hourani told reporters the team would consult "Egyptian brothers" about the Jordanian move.

They were scheduled to meet Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid late Monday.

The PLO team's talks in Amman were described by the two sides as brotherly, frank and constructive.

The delegation, led by Mahmoud Abbas, member of the PLO Executive Committee, was also received by His Majesty King Hussein.

In Baghdad, a PLO spokesman said the Palestine National Council (PNC) would meet in Algiers in the last week of August to set

the last week of August to set (Continued on page 5)

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Tabbaa confident measures will give impetus to economy

AMMAN (Petra) — Recent economic measures announced by the government were adopted in the light of studies by the concerned authorities and after lengthy discussions by the Council of Ministers. Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa said Monday.

Tabbaa said the measures were "in harmony with the basic principles of free economic enterprise and legitimate competition and individual initiative on which the Jordanian national economy is founded."

"I believe that these measures will give a new impetus to the national economy and economic freedom essential for any activity," the minister said (see page 6 for details of new measures).

He said that the new measures

"will no doubt reflect positively on the Jordanian citizen and all consumers, who will from now on give priority to national industrial products, and also on the products themselves which are expected to be of high quality and specifications."

"The measures are bound to offer a good chance for local manufacturers to offer better products to the market and which can compete with imported counterparts, particularly since the local industries will be exempted from production fees and will also enjoy other incentives in the near future."

Tabbaa said the new regulations would also open the way for new investments and ease unemployment in the Kingdom.

Tabbaa said similar measures and incentives would be offered to agricultural and food-processing industries as well as the tourism industry.

The government will soon offer facilities for the tourism sector, he said. Licences will be issued for tourism projects by the Ministry of Tourism provided that a set of conditions are met. Tabbaa said.

The minister also said the government would reexamine the law on encouraging investments, because it was found that some of the law's articles needed amendment.

Tabbaa said the Ministry of Industry and Trade had already started receiving applications by Jordanian and Arab investors to register industrial companies in the Kingdom.

Garden district of New Orleans. Visitors could barely go anywhere without hearing the jazz music indigenous to the city.

With tens of thousands of balloons suspended high in its ceiling, the cavernous superdome was finally ready for the Republican meeting.

Reagan, eager to pass on power to his loyal lieutenant, used his welcoming rally Sunday to give a preview of his prime-time convention address.

He called last month's Democratic convention in Atlanta "the biggest masquerade since last year's Mardi Gras."

"The masquerade is over," Reagan said. "It's time to talk issues... to say the policies of our opposition and the congressional leadership of his party are liberal, liberal, liberal."

The crowd chanted "four more years, four more years" for the president, a reminder of the difficulty Bush faces in trying to win the same enthusiastic support that Reagan enjoyed in two landslide victories.

Rapid moves continue towards Gulf ceasefire

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Advance parties of Canadian military observers and signals experts arrived in Baghdad Monday as the United Nations assembled teams to monitor a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

Diplomats and U.N. officers said the Iraqi government had cooperated fully with efforts to get the U.N. Iran-Iraq military Observer Group (UNIMOG) in place for the formal end to the eight-year war Saturday.

"Only one day after the ceasefire announcement (on Aug. 8), the Iraqis had produced several white-painted vehicles for U.N. use," one diplomat said. "They are really moving fast."

Thirteen Canadian military observers flew into the Iraqi capital overnight and a U.N. officer told Reuters: "The first complete military observer contingent came today."

On the same flight were two men from Canada's 88th Signals Unit, the first of 485 Canadians who will set up a communications network.

A Canadian diplomat said the signals unit would send a second advance party Tuesday, with the main body due on Thursday. A group of 12 signalers earlier reported to have arrived was delayed by a hitch in transport arrangements, he said.

Military observers from Senegal were due to arrive in Baghdad late Monday and 11 Norwegian

observers were expected Tuesday.

A Swiss plane which will fly observers between their headquarters in Baghdad and Tehran left Zurich to take the Yugoslav head of the observer team to the Gulf.

Syria said Monday it supported Tehran's acceptance of a Gulf war ceasefire and aimed to strengthen bilateral relations.

State radio said in a commentary that Syria and Iran agreed to enhance ties during a visit to Damascus by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati which ended Sunday.

"Velayati's visit to Damascus was a good opportunity to discuss views on Iran's acceptance of the U.N. Security Council decision to end the Gulf war... Syria welcomes and supports all sincere efforts made to reach peace," the radio added.

"Syria, which looked on its relations with Iran from the strategic national Arab viewpoint, was always careful to maintain the best relations with the Iranian revolution," it added.

Velayati arrived in Damascus Saturday and held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa.

In Tripoli, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi Monday told Velayati that he appreciated the acceptance by Iran and Iraq of a ceasefire.

Reagan kicks Bush campaign into high gear

NEW ORLEANS (Agencies) — In a unique, farewell political role, President Ronald Reagan is taking the offensive as he campaigns for George Bush's Republican ticket.

Reagan was to take centre stage Monday night for the address that was expected to be the true keynote of the Republican national convention. It also was to be his grand finale, at his fourth convention as a dominant Republican figure.

But it's only the start of his planned campaign. No modern president has conducted a partying campaign to match the one Reagan has promised Bush and the Republicans. He expects to appear at least twice a week in behalf of the ticket and Republican fund-raising efforts from Labour Day to election day.

The Republicans opened the four-day convention Monday evening in a city known for hot jazz, rich food and good times with only two questions left to spice up the ritual of Bush's official elevation:

— Who will he name as his vice presidential running mate?

— Can a man not until now

on who that choice is." Bush said Monday during a round of interviews on U.S. television shows.

"I've not decided," Bush said. Asked if he were leaning towards someone, Bush replied, "Yes, of course but (towards) some people. I'd say."

Bush remained in Washington, giving the first day's convention spotlight to Reagan.

Amid speculation about Bush's running mate, former Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole said on the CBS television network's "CBS This Morning" programme that she did not expect to be named.

Her husband, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, also a prospect, said, "I think Elizabeth would be an excellent choice."

The senator denied that he had been campaigning for the job.

"I haven't done anything to try to influence George Bush. It's his call," Dole said.

Aides said Bush may depart from his plan to make his decision known Thursday and instead unveil his choice Wednesday night, then make a dramatic

speech cheered by thousands of Republicans shortly after he arrived in his fun-loving, French-accented town that calls itself "the big easy."

Condemning Dukakis and the Democrats as big-spending liberals weak on defence, Reagan said: "This isn't a campaign, it's a crusade... for America's future."

"America needs the strength, vision and true grit of George Bush."

Bashing Dukakis as a naive, inexperienced leader weak on foreign affairs and prone to levy taxes will be a main theme of the Republican conclave, and Bush got a start on it by blasting his rival in the Newsweek interview.

He said he fretted about Dukakis being in charge of U.S. national security as commander-in-chief, alleging he would gut America's military defences and adding, "I think the policies he has advocated would be... disastrous."

Meanwhile delegates packed into parties and brunches from the French Quarter to the private homes in the fashionable

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Tunisian foreign minister visits Chad

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian Foreign Minister Abdel Hamid Al Sheikh made a surprise visit to Chad over the weekend, increasing speculation that Tunisia was mediating in Chad's border dispute with Libya. Government sources said Sheikh reported on his mission to President Zine Al-Abidine Ibn Ali Monday, but gave no other details. Sheikh's visit to N'djamena came only five days after Ibn Ali returned from talks in Tripoli with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

Stroessner starts new five-year term

ASUNCION (R) — Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner began a new five-year term of office Monday which could extend his period of uninterrupted rule to 39 years. In a brief ceremony at the national congress the 75-year-old general swore to uphold the constitution, which he has changed since his rule began in 1954 to guarantee his and several loyalists over this landlocked republic of 3.7 million. Major opposition forces have been banned and Stroessner won an election last February against token contestants.

U.S. air force chief in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — U.S. air force commander General Larry Welch was in Ankara Monday and held talks with Defence Minister Turgut Ozal and other officials, Turkish officials said Monday. When it was announced that Welch was in Ankara, it was said that the talks covered cooperation between the air forces of the two NATO countries, they said. Welch will tour an F-16 aircraft production plant near Ankara, a joint venture between Turkey's TUSAŞ Aerospace Industries and the U.S. General Dynamics, set up in 1984.

Rescued Iranians head for home

BAHRAIN (AP) — Five Iranian fishermen, rescued by the U.S. navy eight days ago from their drifting dinghy in the Gulf of Oman, were finally headed home Monday. U.S. military sources said the five were to be turned over to Omani authorities at Goat Island in the Strait of Hormuz, and then transferred to Iranian diplomatic officials' New York control. The five were picked up Aug. 8 by the U.S. missile cruiser USS Johnston, and said they had spent eight days adrift after their vessel, a fishing boat, sank.

S. Africa to build electrified fence

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The army plans to erect a 24-kilometre (15-mile) electrified fence along a section of the Botswana border. The fence, which would be built near the Pondera border station in far northern South Africa, is part of a plan to secure the borders of South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe. There have been several armed encounters in the area between South African security forces and suspected fighters of the African National Congress.

Runcie aide cautious over hostages

LONDON (AP) — A senior aide to Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie said Monday he was cautious about a quick release of British hostages in Lebanon following talks with an Iranian diplomat. Runcie's senior assistant, said the Iranians have secured the release of other foreign hostages in Lebanon — but whether they would pressure for the release of the British captives remains to be seen. "Things may have changed in the Lebanon as a result of the ending of the ceasefire, in the Gulf war. We don't know, but we do know they have very considerable influence and they say so themselves," he said. Both Runcie and Lyttle held talks in London with Mohammad Reza Said Mohammadi, an Iranian foreign ministry official from Tehran. The talks ended Sunday (see page 5).

Ethiopia, Sudan say relations improved

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia and Sudan said Monday that talks between high-ranking security officials of their countries in Addis Ababa last week had led to an improvement in their strained relations. The two nations issued a joint communique expressing satisfaction with the four days of talks between Ethiopian Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs Mogus Habte-Mariam and Sudan's military intelligence chief, General Salah Mustafa. Their talks had resulted in "marked improvements," in bilateral relations, it added, without giving details of what had been discussed.

Joint panel meets to discuss Angola truce

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A joint military committee represented by South Africa, Cuba and Angola met for the first time Monday to discuss monitoring the ceasefire declared last week in the Angolan civil war. There was no immediate public announcement on the talks, which were held at an undisclosed site on the border between Angola and South Africa.

Israeli F-15s collide

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two Israeli F-15 jet fighters collided and crashed in a training exercise Monday, the first known midair mishap involving the high-flying American-built Eagle suffered by the Israeli air force, informed sources said. Apparently, there was at least one fatal casualty, but no details were available. Nor was there any immediate announcement in Israel where strict censorship delays dissemination of such events considered to be matters of "national security." Israel has about 50 of the planes, manufactured by the McDonnell Douglas Corp.

Larjani, Genscher meet in Bonn

BONN (R) — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larjani met West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in Frankfurt Monday, the West German Foreign Ministry said. Larjani said Larjani and his delegation informed Genscher about Iran's position in advance of the ceasefire in its war with Iraq, set to take effect Saturday. He said Genscher raised the case of West German hostage Rudolf Cordes, kidnapped in Lebanon 19 months ago by pro-Iranian guerrillas. Iran said it would try to secure his release, according to the spokesman.

Maldives parliament reelects president

MALE (R) — The Maldives parliament Monday nominated Maumoon Abdul Gayoom for a third successive term as president. Officials said. They said all 46 members of parliament endorsed Gayoom, president of the Indian Ocean island chain since 1978. His presidency must be approved by a national referendum scheduled for Sept. 23.

U.S. hails Lebanon elections

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States Monday hailed Lebanon's announcement that its parliament would select a new president later this week, and promised to help the next president carry out political reforms. "We congratulate the Lebanese parliament and the Lebanese people on achieving this important step, one that is consistent with the Lebanese constitution," said spokesman Charles Redman (see related story on page 8).



The stones of Ajlun walls



Wadi Mujib, Roman Milestones

Jordan's jewels of stone tell tales of days gone by

Fortresses from the past

The following article is reprinted from Royal Jordanian magazine, Royal Wings.

Text and Photos
by Martin Gostelow

ANYONE visiting Amman and having a day to spare will not want to miss Jerash, the most wonderfully preserved of ancient Roman cities and second in fame only to Petra among the jewels in Jordan's archaeological crown. No more than fifty kilometres from the capital, up the busy but excellent highway to the north, it is the kind of place that even those who have been many times before love to revisit.

Every occasion can be different. Go in the morning of a normal working day and you may have the whole place to yourself, or choose a Friday afternoon and be amazed by crowds that throng the magnificent colonnaded main street just as the populace must have done in the city's second century heyday. Whole families, often in traditional dress, stroll among the pillars or around the forum, or sit awhile in the theatres. In the spring they can be knee-deep in gorgeous wild flowers, in winter looking for a sunny spot for their picnic — and in summer for a shady one.

Then again, Jerash gradually changes as meticulous excavation reveals more of the vast site, and well-judged restoration projects such as the reconstruction of fallen columns are undertaken.

You might one time walk purposefully through the ancient city with a map and a detailed guide

book giving the measurements and dates of every ruin — and next visit just wander, absorbing the atmosphere and letting your imagination run free. You can almost hear the chariot wheels that made those ruts in the paving stones so long ago. There is no end to the questions that ask themselves. Why, for example, are the columns on one side of the street of widely varying heights? (Answer: They were integral parts of the buildings that once stood along that side, not just a row of freestanding pillars that could all be matched with each other).

For those who can tear themselves away from Jerash, however, there is another treasure only twenty-five kilometres to the west. A pleasant drive along a quiet road through pine woods and olive groves soon brings it into view. For on a hill-top overlooking the Jordan Valley, and giving spectacular views of it on a clear day, stands a well-preserved twelfth-century Arab castle. This is 'Qal'at al-Rabad, also known as 'Ajlun, the name of the small town not far away. Built in 1184-5 by the Emir 'Lad al-din Usama, one of the followers of Salah al-Din, it was designed to be a bastion in the long struggle against the Crusaders. Its particular function was to protect the vital line of communication from Damascus to Cairo, although it lost some importance after the decisive Arab victory in the battle of Hattin in the year 1187 A.D.

The hill on which 'Ajlun stands is not especially steep so a rock

ditch, or fosse, had to be cut as part of the defences, with a pillar left standing to carry a bridge. The castle as it stands today is mainly the result of reconstruction and enlargement in the late thirteenth century and is a good example of Islamic military architecture. The altitude of 1,000 metres (over 3,000 ft) not only gave it commanding views across the Jordan to the mountains beyond, but also made it part of a chain of signalling posts. These, it is said, allowed messages to be sent by means of beacons and carrier pigeons from Cairo to distant outposts on the Euphrates in the space of a single day!

The stones of 'Ajlun's walls are "rusticated," that is left rough on most of the visible outer faces. In particular, and this is characteristic of the work of Arab stonemasons of the time, they are recessed and smoothed near the joints in such a way as to leave a circular protuberance or boss. Maximum use is made of rocky outcrops, by incorporating them in the walls, and the main gate uses the range of defensive devices that had evolved by the time of this pinnacle of the science of castle-building. The bent entrance-way, with a covered passage actually inside the castle, multiple doors, loopholes from which the garrison could shoot and concealed postern gates all combined to make the main castle gate one of the strongest points instead of one of the weakest.

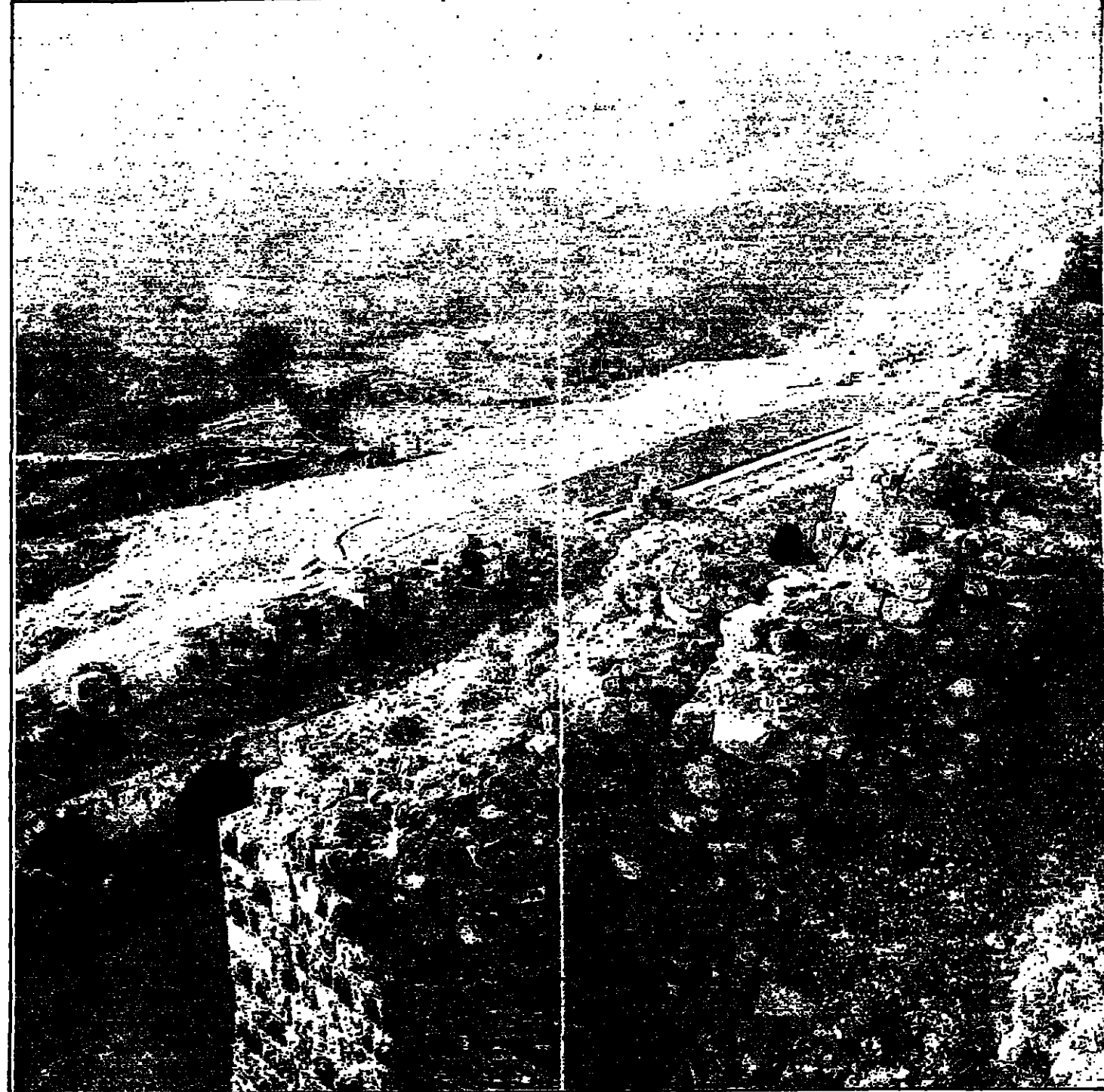
Even more easily accessible from Amman, indeed at the same distance as the Queen

Alia International Airport, lies the town of Madaba. It has one claim to fame, and that claim is unique, for Madaba possesses the oldest known map of this part of the world. This wonderfully detailed document dates from the sixth century A.D. and owes its survival to the fact that it is made of stone. The Madaba map is a beautifully coloured mosaic!

Originally almost twenty-five metres long and seven metres across, it suffered damage long ago and the surviving part is smaller but includes large and detailed city plans. (One of the conventions of this map is that the more important the place, the bigger the area devoted to showing it). The Dead Sea and the River Nile can also be discerned. The Greek lettering is still quite easy to follow and the colours of the marbles and other stones used to make up the design are vivid. They shine as brightly as jewels as if the guardian has just given the map it daily wipe-over with a damp cloth.

For those whose appreciation has been stirred by this stunning example there are a number of other fine mosaics in the town's museum, and still more at about ten kilometres to the west, at Mount Nebo (another high point for views of the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea).

Going south from Amman, travellers today have the same alternatives that they have had from time immemorial: the Desert Highway or, parallel to it and about thirty kilometres to the west, the fabled King's Highway. This latter choice passes through



The Karak highway

more spectacular and mountainous scenery and is avoided by most commercial traffic simply because it takes longer to reach their destinations such as Aqaba, Ma'an and even Petra.

South from Madaba the road has to negotiate the breath-taking canyon of the Wadi Mujib, a great gash in the earth over one thousand metres deep. It winds around hairpin bend after hairpin bend to the bottom and even more laboriously up the other side. Progress is slow but worth every moment for the views: the intriguing Roman milestones by the roadside and in springtime, the most brilliant sea of wildflowers in a palette of every colour.

Not far south of Wadi Mujib, on a spur of high ground some fifteen kilometres east of the Dead Sea, stand the ruins of the once mighty castle known to history as Kerak of Moab. Giddy drops on two sides and a rock-cut fosse on the third made it, at the height of its power in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, practi-

cally impregnable. Only starvation ever brought a successful end to a siege of Kerak.

The site had been an obvious one for a fortress and there was already a walled town dating from ancient times when Frankish invaders under the odd-named Payen the Butler began building the castle in 1142 A.D. Several sieges in the 1170s failed to dislodge them, but when the infamous "land pirate," Reynald of Chatillon, took command, his raids, treaty-breaking and ruthless depredations became such a menace that Salah al-Din resolved to eliminate the threat permanently.

It was during one of the investments of Kerak that a famous example of the courtesy displayed by Salah al-Din occurred. He heard that a marriage had taken place within the walls of the fortress and sent to enquire in which tower the bride pair were lodging, so that he could avoid bombarding it. In fact Kerak did not fall until after the battle of

Hattin and a further prolonged siege.

Salah al-Din then gave Kerak to his brother al-Malik al-'Adil, one of the most celebrated castle-builders. He added the great south keep, which dominates the site today, with its bossed stones like those of 'Ajlun. One of the most striking features of Kerak is the vast extent of the underground storage chambers, caverns, stables, water cisterns

and dungeons. It is easy to see how a garrison of hundreds could survive for months.

Looking out over the ramparts in spring and early summer over bright green fields it is clear, too, where the grain came from to fill those great storehouses. Visitors with more time will doubtless want to continue southward along the King's Highway to Petra and Aqaba in southern Jordan — but that is another story.

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19:30 Religious programme
19:45 Agricultural programme
20:00 Programme review
20:15 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:00 Programme review
21:15 Varieties programme
21:30 Programme on capitalism
22:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Les Mille et Une Vies
18:00 News in French
18:15 Aujourdhui en Jordanie
18:30 News in Hebrew
18:45 Varieties programme
19:00 News in Arabic
20:00 Clarendon
20:30 Campaign
21:00 News in English
22:00 Hammer
23:10 Perfect Spy

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& partly on 950 KIL, SW
Tel. 77111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Just a Minute
09:15 News Summary
09:30 30 Minute Theatre
10:00 News Summary
10:15 Pop Session
10:30 News Bulletin
10:45 Instrumentals
11:00 30 Minute Theatre
11:30 Concert Hour
11:45 News Summary
12:00 News Bulletin
12:15 Old Favourites
12:30 Pop Talk
12:45 News Bulletin
13:00 News Summary
13:15 Top Twenty
13:30 Music
13:45 News Desk
14:00 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show

WORLDNET

(At the American Cultural Centre)

08:00 America Today
11:00 Newsdesk
12:00 Hour USA
13:00 America Today
14:00 Omit: The New Frontier
14:30 National Gallery of Art Special
15:00 Worldnet Dialogue: The Depiction of the Stratospheric Ocean Layer
16:00 Worldnet Dialogue: U.S.-China Relations
17:00 Firing Line

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639, 720, 1323 KILZ

07:00 Newsdesk
07:15 Newsdesk
07:30 Without Strings
07:45 Reflections
07:50 Financial News
08:00 World News
08:15 News Summary
08:30 News Summary
08:45 Book Choice
08:50 World News
09:00 Newsdesk
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23:45 Newsdesk
24:00 World News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1240 & SW 7201, 950s, 11740, 11925 and 15210 ILZ

07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 08:45 News 09:00 Newsline 09:15 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 09:45 News 10:00 Newsline 10:15 Newsline 10:30 Music USA 10:45 Newsline 10:50 Focus 10:55 Special English News & Features 11:00 News 11:15 Newsline 11:30 Focus 11:35 Special English News & Features 11:40 News 11:55 Newsline 12:00 Focus 12:05 Special English News & Features 12:10 News 12:15 Newsline 12:30 Focus 12:35 Special English News & Features 12:40 News 12:45 Newsline 12:50 Focus 12:55 Special English News & Features 13:00 News 13:05 Newsline 13:15 Focus 13:20 Special English News & Features 13:25 News 13:30 Newsline 13:45 Focus 13:50 Special English News & Features 14:00 News 14:05 Newsline 14:15 Focus 14:20 Special English News & Features 14:25 News 14:30 Newsline 14:45 Focus 14:50 Special English News & Features 15:00 News 15:05 Newsline 15:15 Focus 15:20 Special English News & Features 15:25 News 15:30 Newsline 15:45 Focus 15:50 Special English News & Features 16:00 News 16:05 Newsline 16:15 Focus 16:20 Special English News & Features 16:25 News 16:30 Newsline 16:45 Focus 16:50 Special English News & Features 17:00 News 17:05 Newsline 17:15 Focus 17:20 Special English News & Features 17:25 News 17:30 Newsline 17:45 Focus 17:50 Special English News & Features 18:00 News 18:05 Newsline 18:15 Focus 18:20 Special English News & Features 18:25 News 18:30 Newsline 18:45 Focus 18:50 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:05 Newsline 19:15 Focus 19:20 Special English News & Features 19:25 News 19:30 Newsline 19:45 Focus 19:50 Special English News & Features 20:00 News 20:05 Newsline 20:15 Focus 20:20 Special English News & Features 20:25 News 20:30 Newsline 20:45 Focus 20:50 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:05 Newsline 21:15 Focus 21:20 Special English News & Features 21:25 News 21:30 Newsline 21:45 Focus 21:50 Special English News & Features 22:00 News 22:05 Newsline 22:15 Focus 22:20 Special English News & Features 22:25 News 22:30 Newsline 22:45 Focus 22:50 Special English News & Features 23:00 News 23:05 Newsline 23:15 Focus 23:20 Special English News & Features 23:25 News 23:30 Newsline 23:45 Focus 23:50 Special English News & Features 24:00 News

CULTURAL CENTRES & LIBRARIES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 664371
British Council 661520
British Council 661478
French Cultural Centre 670109
German Institute 661903
Greek Cultural Centre 664203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 670777
Hajj Arts Centre 665195
Hajj Arts Centre 667103
Y.W.C.A. 661703
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 637111
Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation 672541
Amman Municipal Library 637111

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Hajj Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan National Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Hajj Arts Centre (Clarendon Hall). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Montazah, Hajj Arts Centre. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 631125.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Hajj Arts Centre, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261

PRAYER TIMES

04:25 Sunrise
04:54 (Sunrise) Doha
12:00 Dhuhur
16:20 'Asr
19:25 Maghrib
20:50 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Hajj Arts Centre. Tel. 625590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Hajj Arts Centre. Tel. 625590.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Hajj Arts Centre. Tel. 625590.
Jabal Hussein. Tel. 601757. Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m., winter time 5 p.m.).
Terzian Church (Roman Catholic). Hajj Arts Centre. Tel. 771751.
Jabal Lubweidh. Mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Hajj Arts Centre. Tel. 625541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Resurrection) Hajj Arts Centre. Tel. 625533.
chapel's residence. Tel. 601359.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775291.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295.
Rainbow Congregation. (meets at the Good Shepherd Church).
Interdenominational-multicultural English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605. Rev. Veli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815817, 821284.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (069) 532015, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
10:00 Athens (RJ)
10:15 Jeddah (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:55 Moscow, Dubai (RJ)
11:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
11:30 Montreal, New York (RJ)
12:10 Istanbul (RJ)
12:20 Athens (RJ)
12:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
20:00 Rome (add.) (RJ)
20:30 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Rome (add.) (RJ)
13:30 Moscow, Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ)
13:30 Moscow (SU)
14:20 Bucharest (RJ)
14:35 Kuwait (RJ)
15:45 Tripoli (RJ)
16:00 Riyadh (SV)
16:00 Dubai (F-K)
18:05 Zurich, Larnaca (SK)
20:10 Beirut (ME)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:05 Athens (RJ)
11:00 Rome (add.) (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)
13:00 Madrid (RJ)
13:05 Geneva, London (RJ)
13:15 Paris (RJ)
15:20 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
15:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
20:40 Kuwait (RJ)
20:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:00 Cairo (RJ)
21:15 Vienna, Miami, Los Angeles (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:15 Beirut (ME)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:05 Cairo (RJ)
14:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Moscow (RJ)
15:00 Moscow (SU)
15:35 Kuwait (RJ)
15:40 Bucharest (RJ)
16:45 Kuwait (SV)
17:40 Riyadh (SV)
18:55 Damascus (AZ)
19:00 Dubai (EK)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

The temperature is expected to be around normal, with north-westerly moderate and freshening winds. In Aqaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Amman Min./max. temp. 19 / 28
Aqaba 25 / 37
Deserts 20 / 33
Jordan Valley 25 / 36

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29.7, Aqaba 37.8. Humidity read: Amman 26 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Fu'ad 897807
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Hamad 811891
Dr. Nidal Marayseh 771218
Firas pharmacy 661912
Firas pharmacy 771336
Al-Azhar pharmacy 670155
Nurallah pharmacy 621672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637680
TAXIS:
Abraham taxi 667011
Zaid taxi 664476
Khayyam taxi 641541
Cairo taxi 6919157
Jordan taxi 620580
Kurdi taxi 661309
IRBID:
Dr. Isam Al Saleh
Al Shuaib pharmacy 985238
ZARQA:
Dr. Hisham Hiyas
Khafid pharmacy 985411

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate 661111
Civil Defence Directorate 661111
Rescue 636341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 198, 891229
Blood Bank 776388

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 8180132
Khafid Maternity, J. Amn 6442018
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn 6434112
Jabal Amman Maternity 642562
Mahab, J. Amman 646180
Palestine, Shmeisani 6647144
Shmeisani Hospital 660111
University Hospital 648485
Al-Muhsin Hospital 6672799
The Islamic, Aqaba 6661277
Al-Ahl, Aqaba 661609
Jalal, Al-Muhajir 7710013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 8016115
Army, Marka 8016115
Queen Alia Hospital 6622489
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zargo Giver Hospital (09)80132
Zargo National Hospital (09)80132
The Sun Hospital (09)80132
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (03)37355
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)37122
Bin Al Nafec Hospital (02)37100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)34111

GENERAL

Ministry of Information 641607
Ministry of the Interior 661111
Ministry of Transport 643111
Driving License Dept. 662267
Foreigners and Expatriates Dept. 621108
Meteorological Dept. 662400
Public Security Headquarters 637111
Telecommunications 662400

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CROWN PRINCE MEETS RIFAI: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan visited the Prime Ministry Monday and held a brief meeting with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

VISING VOTERS LIST: Committees in charge of revising electorates lists in Balqa Governorate have completed their work. The lists will be hung out for the benefit of the public as of today for a whole week.

BAKERIES CLOSED: The Public Safety Committee in Zarqa ordered the closing of three bakeries found to have been using inferior products as fuel for baking bread in violation of laws. The governor said that strict measures will be taken against bakeries, restaurants and cafes who violate health regulations.

PEOPLE'S ARMY: A ceremony was held in Irbid Monday for the graduation of another batch of People's Army recruits from Irbid and Ma'an. Another batch was graduated at a ceremony in Ma'an.

COURSE ON MARKETING: A new training course on international marketing was opened Monday at the Jordanian Institute of Management operated by the Industrial Development Bank. The course will orient a number of directors and senior officials in the use of modern methods of marketing, import and export regulations.

HAMILAN GRADUATES: A batch of 25 women graduated from the May Hamilan Community Centre Monday after completing a two-month training course in typing, weaving, and artificial flower making.

COURSES FOR FARMERS: The director of Agriculture Department in Jordan Valley announced that weekly training courses will be organized for local farmers. He said that guidance and advice will be given on irrigation, combating pests and crop diseases and other matters.

Ministry to attend talks on world cultural development

AMMAN (Petra). The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage will participate in the first meeting of an international government committee to discuss world cultural development.

The meeting, organized by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), has been scheduled for Sept. 12 in Paris, according to a ministry spokesman.

He said the week-long meeting will address a number of cultural issues, including cooperation among countries in promoting cultural heritage and means of providing protection for cultural property.

The Ministry of Culture will be represented at the Paris meeting by Usama Miquadi, the spokesman added.

He said the ministry will also take part in celebrations to be held in the Yugoslav city of Struga on Aug. 25. The Jordanian poet Nayer Abu Ubeid will attend the celebration.

King Abdullah Complex to open on Nov. 14

AMMAN (J.T.) — The King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Complex and Public Park at Wadi Al-Hammam will be formally inaugurated under royal patronage on the birthday of His Majesty King Hussein, according to Amman Development Corporation (ADC) Director General Sami Al-Jarrah.

Al-Jarrah was quoted by Sawt Al Arabiya daily as saying that ADC will shortly announce tenders for renting 16 stores, a washing station, a petrol station, a restaurant and kiosks for food and refreshments. The ADC will, however, utilize 50 per cent of the complex area as a public garden for which entry will be free of charge, Rashid said.

He said the 82-dunum complex will have a car park, and other facilities for the benefit of visitors.

The amphitheatre will be available for plays or other performances and a nursery will open for children, in addition to a recreation centre which will include a children's garden and an aquarium, Rashid added.

The cost of the project, according to Rashid, is estimated at JD 7 million and the annual rate of return from renting facilities is expected to reach seven per cent of the cost.

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Minister urges more Arab aid to Sudan

TUNIS (Petra, J.T.) — Minister of Social Development Fawwaz Touqan outlined Jordan's relief programmes to Sudan over the past three years and urged other Arab countries to extend all possible assistance to the flood-stricken country.



Fawwaz Touqan

The minister, addressing the executive bureau meeting of Arab social affairs ministers council gathered here in an emergency session to review means of extending help to Sudan, also briefed the participants on Jordan's national plan for providing emergency food supplies, medicine and technical help to the drought and famine stricken regions of the Arab-African country.

The meeting, held under Touqan's chairmanship, heard a report from the Arab League and another from Sudan's envoy on conditions in Sudan following the floods which left at least 1.5 million people homeless and destroyed an estimated 83,000 homes.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the meeting decided to allocate \$500,000 in "symbolic financial assistance" to help the Sudanese government finance the purchase of urgently needed supplies.

The bureau issued an urgent call to all Arab states to send more relief supplies to Sudan to help it overcome the consequences of floods and appealed to Arab and international organisations to follow suit, Petra said.

It said the Arab ministers decided to conduct a lengthy study on Sudan's social needs in the wake of the present disaster.

The meeting consisted of ministers of social affairs in Jordan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, North and South Yemen and Oman.

Earlier this month, the National Committee for Solidarity with Sudan decided to dispatch urgent assistance to that country in the form of medical and rescue teams to carry out relief operations.

The committee, acting upon directives from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, also decided to send a new consignment of medicine, food and construction supplies, water sterilisers and power generators to Sudanese hospitals.

The new dispatches accompany Jordan's missions of health and engineering officials working in the drought stricken areas of Sudan.

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Aqaba Region Authority makes reforms to enhance tourism

AQABA (Petra, J.T.) — Aqaba, this month, will host a regional conference on the environmental situation in the Red Sea zone and the Gulf of Aden, paving the way for projects to curtail pollution, Aqaba Region Authority (ARA) Director General Bassam Qaqish announced Monday.

ARA carried out several projects aimed at reducing water, air and noise pollution and determining the causes of contamination in Aqaba, especially on its coast, Qaqish said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said one such project, carried out in cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Aqaba Marine Science Station, cost JD 545,000.

ARA is also concerned with developing the port city and its surroundings, concentrating on transport, telecommunications, health, public safety, general services, transit, tourism and investments, Qaqish noted.

He said one of the main agro-touristic projects in Aqaba is that of planting palm trees on large areas of land.

Currently, 10,500 palm saplings are being planted in an area of 100 dunums to create a palm forest in the Aqaba region, Qaqish noted.

He said dates produced by these trees will make Jordan self-

sufficient in this commodity. ARA plans to establish a plant for packing locally-produced dates for the local market and for export.

Date saplings previously were imported from Iraq, Tunisia, and Egypt. Part of the lands allotted for forests have been planted with citrus fruit at the cost of JD 70,000, Qaqish added.

ARA requested that concerned authorities prepare a study on floods in Aqaba region since the city lies at the mouth of streams and at the convergence point of large wadis, Qaqish said.

He said this study, now complete, outlines preliminary designs to provide protection for the city in case of floods.

A survey conducted in the

course of the study, he said, also provided rough plans for roads which would serve the city from now until the year 2000.

Another organisational plan for the development of the Aqaba coast at Hafaier district has been worked out and a third has been drafted for utilising the port and the industrial zones in a more efficient manner, Qaqish added.

Qaqish said ARA established the Royal Jordanian Diving Centre, the first of its kind in the region, at a cost of JD 205,000. This centre, he said, was used by the British Sandhurst Military College to train its students.

The centre, he added, is being used for training officers from the Public Security Department and private citizens.

Other projects include the Aqaba sports complex, which has a soccer field, which can accommodate 4,000 spectators, and adjoining facilities which cost JD 120,000, Qaqish noted.

He said work is also underway to build a Royal Yachts Club to promote tourist activities and reconstruction continues on the old Shallaleh district and central parts of the city.

To encourage tourism, Qaqish added, "a national tourist camp was set up on a 350 dunum area for domestic and foreign tourist groups."

"In addition, a new suburb, the Sultan Qaboos Tourist District, will be established and, according to plans, will be composed of 3,000 homes which could be sold to Jordanian and Arab citizens to spend their holidays near the coast," Qaqish said.

In the Badia district of Aqaba, Qaqish said ARA is establishing a youth centre, a central services complex and a community centre.

ARA, he said, is continuing with projects to facilitate traffic flow to and from the city by paving roads, building bridges and establishing road junctions.

The ARA chief said the Aqaba region constitutes 9.5 per cent of Jordan's total area and has a population of 50,000.

National committee seeks to reduce crimes and rehabilitate criminals

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Higher National Committee for Combating Crime in Jordan Monday published recommendations reached at its meeting held Saturday evening under the chairmanship of Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali.

The committee discussed working papers and regulations concerning measures to curtail crime in the Kingdom and reviewed sub-committee reports on different subjects.

The recommendations which appeared in Monday's local press call for a number of measures deemed necessary to reduce crimes and rehabilitate the criminals.

The committee decided to embark on a programme to spread public awareness against drugs, relying on books and publications, lectures, radio and television programmes and religious teachings, to achieve that end.

The assistance of universities, schools and various ministries will be enlisted in this process, according to the recommendations.

Col. Ghaleb Zo'bi director of the PSD's anti-narcotics division presented a working paper which demonstrated that an increasing number of youths are now turning to drugs and becoming addicts.

Jordan, which has a central geographic location in the Arab World is being used by drug traffickers as a passage ground for other Arab states, Zo'bi said.

"In addition, the presence of a great number of non-Jordanian workers in the Kingdom creates a fertile ground for the spread of drugs."

Although this is not a dangerous problem yet for Jordan, all possible measures should be taken to eliminate its causes, Zo'bi noted.

Majali paid tribute to the work of subcommittees and said His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has pledged support for

these subcommittees and to make funds available for their research work.

The national committee held its first meeting in June and heard views of PSD officials, religious leaders and lawyers on crimes in the Kingdom.

On the meeting's agenda were figures provided by the PSD, which indicate a decline in crimes last year, compared with figures released on crimes in 1986.

A total of 18,129 crimes of all kinds were committed in the country in 1987 compared with 19,579 in 1986.

The figures included a decline of 5.4 per cent in juvenile delinquency and 27.4 per cent drop in the number of robberies and thefts, according to the PSD figures.

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WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

Architectural exhibition at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts.

Paintings exhibition by Edward Horan at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FOLKLORE DANCE

Performance segments called: "Events for Television" by the Merce Cunningham and Her Dance Company. The American Centre at 7:00 p.m.

FILMS

Film: The Murderer: The Goethe Institute at 8:30 p.m.

Video film: "Moscow Olympic Stars." The Soviet Cultural Centre at 5:30 p.m.

PLAZA

TIMES

Friday
Sunday & everyday

LUNCH BUFFET
at the
COFFEE SHOP

JD. 5.500pp

Saturday
NIGHT

POOL B.B.Q.
Taste our
delightful seafood,
shawarmah, grills,
curries.

Relax, Dance under
the stars to the
music of our 'Trio'

JD. 6.000pp

Sunday

LOBSTER NIGHT
at the
ANDALUSIA

Seafood Hors. D'oeuvres
Lobster Imperial
Strawberry Pancakes
Coffee & Petit Fours

JD. 8.000pp

Monday

PRIME RIB NIGHT
at the
COFFEE SHOP

Prime Rib,
Yorkshire Pudding
Baked Potato
Garden Peas
Followed by
Apple Pie & Cream

JD. 4.500pp

Tuesday

SHRIMP NIGHT
at the
ANDALUSIA

SEAFOOD Cocktail
Grilled Shrimps
or
Shrimps with
Spinach Souffle
Fresh Summer Fruits
Coffee & Petit Fours

JD. 8.000pp

Wednesday

SWEET 'N' SOUR
NIGHT
at the
COFFEE SHOP

Chicken
Sweetcorn soup
Choice of
Sweet 'n' Sour Shrimps,
Chicken or Pork
with special rice
Sweets from our Buffet

JD. 4.500pp

Thursday

SEAFOOD NIGHT
at the
ANDALUSIA

Set Menu
or
ALA CARTE

Every THURSDAY
JD. 8.000pp

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Jordan Times

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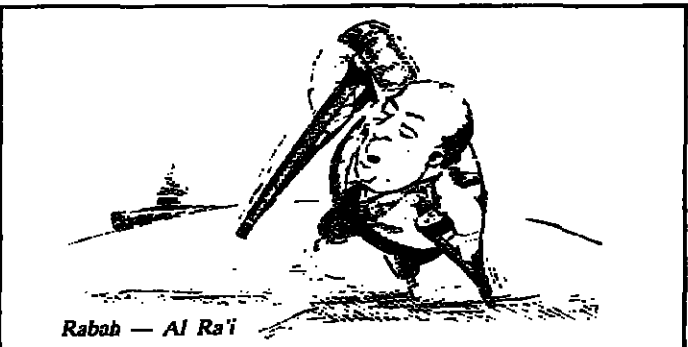
Positive start

THERE is much to be pleased with following the three days of talks between Jordanian and Palestinian officials which took place here earlier this week. The single most important factor, in our view, is the clarity in bilateral ties that has started to emerge in the wake of Jordan's decision to cut legal and administrative links with the West Bank. After the move was first announced, there was some public confusion about its implications and ramifications. The Jordan-PLO talks have started to clarify key elements of the process at hand, and, we believe, in a manner that will serve the best interests of both parties.

Most important, perhaps, is the new spirit of dialogue and mutual respect that now governs Jordan-PLO relations. In the past, there were periods when the relationship had to overcome some short-term suspicion and doubts about motives. The Jordanian disengagement from the occupied Palestinian territories has removed an element which had given rise to considerable misunderstandings. The relationship between the two banks of the Jordan River is now more logical and effective. The Palestinian identity has been strengthened, both regionally and internationally, and the role of Jordan in supporting the Palestinian people's chosen strategy for national liberation has been put on a more efficacious course.

The critical thing now is to maintain and deepen the dialogue between the two leaderships and the two people, so as to avoid any misinterpretations — naive or malicious — which may enter onto the stage. The discussions here this week are an excellent start, and confirm our long-held and firm belief that only through close cooperation between distinct but fraternal Jordanian and Palestinian political entities can we hope to achieve progress towards the national goals of the Palestinians, the Jordanians and other Arabs. The spirit of mutual responsibility, honesty and realism that prevailed at the meetings should be clear to, and generate pride in, all Jordanians and Palestinians.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



Al Ra'i: Serving the Palestinians

JORDANIAN-Palestinian talks which ended in Amman Sunday stressed the special relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian people despite the Jordanian decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank. The talks marked yet another stage in bilateral consultations and coordination between the two sides on matters of supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and thwarting Zionist plots and evil plans in Palestine. For its part, Jordan has reiterated its commitment to helping the Palestinian people in their continued drive to liberate their lands despite the new Jordanian measure, and the PLO delegation voiced total appreciation of the Jordanian move and the Jordanian leadership's stand which has always supported Arab causes in general and the Palestine cause in particular. The PLO now realises that Jordan's measures were designed solely to serve the Palestinian people and enable their legitimate representative to assume its role and shoulder its responsibilities in all matters related to the Palestinian people. The official Jordanian statement following these talks made it clear that the two sides were in full agreement on maintaining national unity between the two sides of the River Jordan and the need for coordinated steps to foil enemy plans. The statement also pointed out that Jordanians living in the East Bank will maintain their full rights in the Palestinian homeland. This consensus clearly reflects the Jordanian and Palestinian leadership's desire to preserve and bolster all ties between them in the service of the common cause.

Al Dustour: Deep satisfaction

PERHAPS the positive atmosphere which prevailed at the Jordanian-PLO talks in Amman and the deep satisfaction which resulted from the three-day deliberations are more important than the talks themselves, although the agenda was full of important topics. The PLO's expression of satisfaction with the Jordanian measures concerning the West Bank and the motives behind them is a constructive factor for the continuation of mutual cooperation. The Palestinian side expressed total understanding of the Jordanian measures, which are clearly designed to serve the Palestinian people and their legitimate and sole representative; and to give further impetus to the current Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories. Indeed, there has been unanimous approval by all countries of the Jordanian measures which are considered as another practical step towards helping the Palestinians' struggle to regain their rights and achieve self-determination on Palestinian soil. Jordan, of course, welcomes the PLO decision to maintain its consultations between the two sides and will certainly adopt measures for safeguarding national unity which can stand as a strong fortress in the face of Zionist conspiracies and can help maintain progress and prosperity for people on both banks of the River Jordan.

Sawt Al Shaab: Partners

JORDANIAN-Palestinian talks ended in Amman Sunday with a positive communiqué reflecting the determination on both sides to maintain strong ties of cooperation and coordination for the benefit of the Jordanian and Palestinian people. Statements by officials on both sides following the communiqué further contributed to the process of removing all misgivings and mistrust which had characterised the PLO stand with regard to Jordan for a long time. While taking its measures concerning the West Bank, Jordan was very careful in its action which came in response to Arab demands at the Algiers summit and has been careful to point out that the measures can by no means end the national unity between the Jordanian and Palestinian people. The Jordanian leadership was careful also to explain these facts to the PLO delegation and to pledge Jordan's unwavering support for the Palestinian struggle for freedom and the creation of an independent Palestinian state on Palestine soil. The PLO delegation members who heard Jordan's explanation of the situation, voiced appreciation of King Hussein's endeavours and relentless efforts to serve the Palestine cause. This PLO attitude was welcomed by Jordan which should be regarded as a partner in the common struggle to achieve freedom for the Palestinian people.

Palestinians in Israel: Survival against all odds

By Julia Slater

IN the media coverage of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the state of Israel, many commentators have drawn comparisons between the spirit of 1948 and the spirit of 1988, with honest old European socialist Zionists being replaced by thrusting and ruthless young Sephardim and American religious fundamentalists. Public perception of Israel in the West until relatively recently was certainly that of a nation of pioneers who made the desert bloom. Liberals who are horrified now by what they have been seeing in the occupied territories remain unaware of the experiences of those Arabs who have lived in Israel since the beginning.

The three main Arab areas in Israel are the Negev in the south, the Triangle in the centre, and the Galilee in the north, and in addition there are mixed towns like Haifa, Akko and Jaffa. Of these groups, it is certainly the Negev Beduin who have suffered most. Many of them fled or were expelled during the 1948 war; others were told by the Israelis that they must leave their land for

It is certainly the Negev Beduin who have suffered most

the duration of the hostilities and that afterwards they would be allowed to return. This promise has never been fulfilled, and the tribes have not been offered adequate compensation.

In 1953, the Knesset adopted the Law of Acquisition of Lands, which stated that land unoccupied by its owners on April 1, 1952 would be registered in the name of the Development Authority and was thus available for

Jewish settlement. The Beduin land in question was of course unoccupied precisely because the owners had been driven off by a combination of force and false pretences and were forcibly prevented from returning to it. Until 1966 all the remaining Negev Beduin were obliged to live in a closed reservation, with their rights severely curtailed — for several years, for example, a person had to get one of the limited number of permits in order to be able to leave the area at all. The government policy is to push the Beduin into wage labour, and to this end it is trying to force them to live in government settlements where they are unable to cultivate any land.

But the Beduin are traditionally farmers, and most have been more or less settled since long before the establishment of the state of Israel. The Israelis refuse to recognise any proof of Beduin land ownership except for the Turkish Tabu land registry documents, though it is well known that scarcely any Beduin registered their lands — quite understandably, since registration meant taxation and conscription. Land sale documents which some tribes do hold, do not satisfy the authorities. The position now is that somewhat over half the Negev Beduin live in "illegal" villages, either on their former lands, or on lands to which they were relocated. Since they are not allowed to put up buildings outside the government settlements, any house is liable to demolition and its owner to be fined or imprisoned, though there is no consistency in the way in which the law is applied.

Provision of basic services is poor to non-existent. Land, even though it was formerly held by Beduin, can be leased, not owned, and only for one growing season, which removes all incen-

The Israelis refuse to recognise any proof of Beduin land ownership

tive to improve it. No water is available for Arab irrigation, though it is supplied to Jewish farms. The traditional authority structures have been undermined, though the Israelis have co-opted some ignorant older men to help them — people who have forfeited the respect of the community. The Shaikh of one illegal village said: "I'm supposed to serve them as an informer. This is not honourable work and I refuse to do anything that is against religion or honour. So they don't respond to our demands." The shaikhs try to bargain with the authorities, but there is little they can do when the authorities consistently renege on their promises.

The Beduin have suffered most, but the same basic policy is in operation against all the Arab citizens of Israel: To deprive them of their land and make them into wage labourers. The towns and villages further north have seen their old lands confiscated and handed over for Jewish use. The result is not only that they have less land, but also that their populations have swollen immensely as the inhabitants of destroyed villages who have lost their own lands have moved in. The authorities have refused to draw up zoning plans for the Arab villages, and thus few plots have been designated for new housing. As the population naturally increases, the inhabitants are forced to build new houses anyway, often investing very large sums of money in them, since they are designed for big families, and because in any case there is little else to invest in. The authorities play cat and mouse: A build-

ing may have been standing for years before its owner is told to demolish it. If he refuses, the demolition is done for him and he is charged for the job. A recent report by a government committee recommended that several thousand houses in the Arab sector should be demolished.

The problem is not immediately obvious to the casual visitor to an Arab village, where many of the houses give every appearance of affluence — though repeated visits will show that some are never completed. The inhabitants maintain that these houses are the fruit of long years of hard work and sacrifice. The housing ministry has never built a house in the Arab sector, and Arabs do not benefit from any of the subsidies available to Jews. The Israelis claim that the Arabs' standard of living has increased greatly since 1948, but many Arabs retort that this has happened all over the world, and what improvement there is is the fruit of their own efforts, and nothing to do with the existence of Israel.

The traditional authority structures have been undermined

Although the Triangle and Galilee villages have their own elected councils (unlike the Negev government settlements) the public services there are usually very poor, since the councils do not receive sufficient money from the relevant ministries. The purely Arab areas of Israel, which contain 12 per cent of the country's population, receive 3 per cent of the total municipal allowances. Umm al-Fahm is famous for the sewage that runs down its steep streets. A council official from there attri-

buted the low level of funding to the fact that that town in particular has a reputation for being nationalist. Samir Wahabi, who belongs to Likud, and heads the education department of the local council in Bayt Jann in the Galilee, is proud of the amenities in his village, and gives short shrift to the nationalist councils: "They should leave politics to the politicians. The problems of the Palestinian people can't be solved by the local authorities. Their job is to contribute to the development and progress of their village."

But politics and services are not so easily separated even in a mixed community. The mainly Arab quarter of Khalsa in the largely Jewish town of Haifa has found a distinct lack of interest by the local authorities in improving run-down areas. So the Khalsa Association has been set up by Arab and Jewish residents to take matters into their own hands. One of the activists, Naim, explained the municipality's attitude: It says that the people living in Khalsa have moved in from the mountains, and the city cannot be responsible for them. The association has become quite well known, and is able to raise some money abroad. But even if the Arabs plan to deal with the Israeli Arab population comes into force, and the government implements its proposals to reward compliant Arab movements and to penalise nationalists, the association is not worried. "Maybe they will put an end to funds from outside," said Naim, "but they can't put an end to our awareness."

Forty years have passed since the creation of the state of Israel, and the experience of those 40 years of Zionist rule has inevitably politicised the Palestinians and changed their outlook. The

Forty years of Zionist rule has politicised the Palestinians and changed their outlook

Palestinians have seized on the opportunities they have been given, such as compulsory universal education. Although they complain that the standard of schooling they receive is much lower than that available in the Jewish sector, and the opportunities for further education fewer at least young Arab women do not now say, as many of their mothers do: "I'm illiterate, don't understand politics." Haifa in hand has gone a growing independence for girls, though evidently the degree of freedom they have depends also on their families. Hiam Abbas, an actress now living in Haifa, but born in the Arab village of Dayr Hanna, admitted that Israel has influenced the Palestinians by offering them different perceptions, a different way of life. At the same time she emphatically rejects any identification with Israel, and resents finding herself surrounded by manifestations of Hebrew culture, being addressed in Hebrew, being automatically presumed to be Jewish. Another educated woman of the same age, living in Tayiba, in the Triangle, envied her mother, who, she said had had an easier life, able to stay at home rather than go out into an alien environment. "But wouldn't you have been bored just sitting at home?" "Of course, the chance to study and work is good," she replied, "but we have to study with people who don't like us. I'm not saying her life was much better than mine. But her state of mind was better than mine, and that is very important in life." — Middle East International, London.

Israel's ex-military chiefs play increasing role in election debate

By Nicolas B. Tatro
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's pre-election debate on the future of the occupied territories is turning into a battle of the generals.

The Labour Party of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is reassessing policy, based on the recommendations of retired military chiefs who believe giving back land may not jeopardise the country's security.

However, their positions are disputed by ex-generals aligned with the Likud Bloc of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. They argue a smaller Israel is a more vulnerable Israel.

"Could we leave Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and be safe? The answer is no," said retired Maj. Gen. Yehoshua Saguy, now a Likud candidate for parliament.

The Nov. 1 elections may turn on whether Israeli voters are willing to risk giving up all or part of the West Bank and Gaza Strip occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Much of the new thinking about the territories is coming from the liberal, Labour-oriented Council for Peace and Security, which includes among its members 30 major generals, 80 brigadier generals and 100 colonels.

Spokesman Moshe Amirav says after four months of internal debates, the private think tank is getting ready to publish a series of papers on the military implications of giving up territory.

Amirav said a consensus had been reached on four major points:

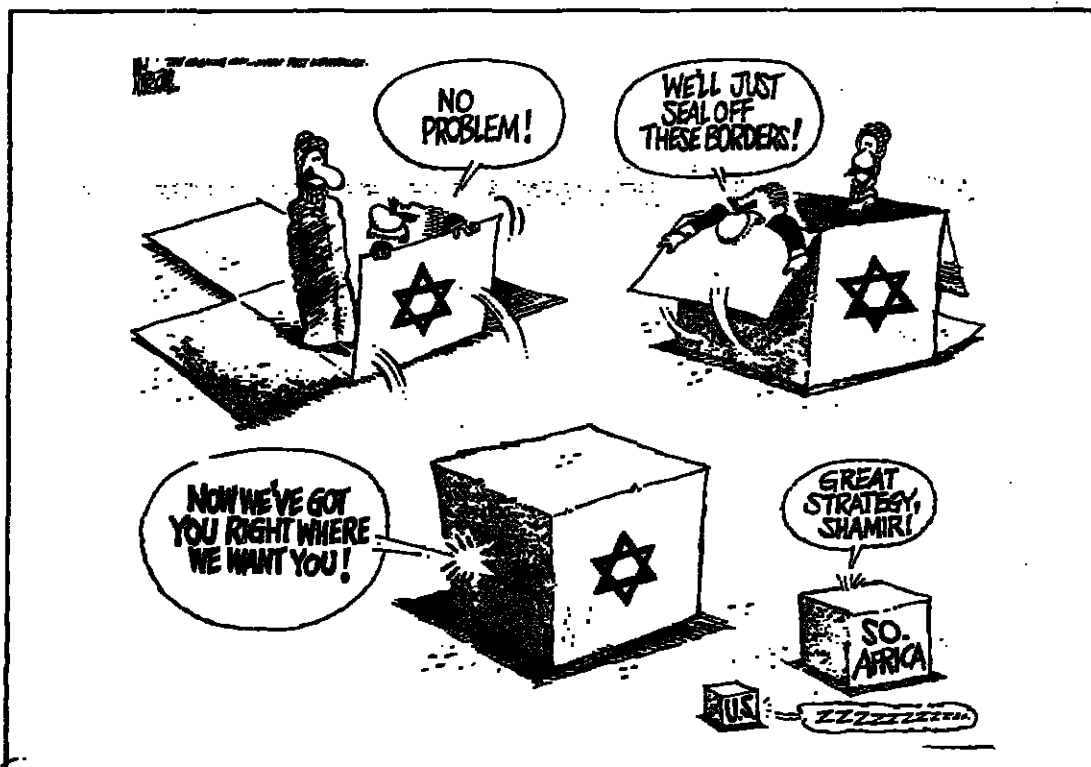
— Evacuated areas would become demilitarised.

— The Jordan River would be the military frontier.

— Israel's air force would control of the skies over any territory yielded to the Arabs.

— Israel would maintain early warning stations in the West Bank, perhaps existing bases, on 50-year leases.

Retired Maj.-Gen. Menachem Meron of the Peace Council said



it could take years to establish adequate security safeguards.

"Our group believes territorial compromise can be achieved and defence arrangements can be made, even if they cover a long period of time," he said in an interview.

The daily Yediot Ahronot newspaper said a withdrawal plan was being drafted for the Labour Party by a group of senior reserve officers headed by Avigdor Ben-Gal, a retired major general and leading figure in the Peace Council.

It would replace a Labour Party policy paper that envisioned Israel holding onto the Jordan Valley and other strategic areas of the West Bank for security reasons.

"Under the previous plan, Israel would keep 50 to 60 per cent of the territory. But in terms of security, we say it can give up to 100 per cent if these conditions are met," Amirav said in an interview.

He also added the consensus in

the council's discussions was that a Palestinian state "is not by itself a mortal threat to Israel" even though this had become a slogan of the right.

Saguy, who has emerged as a leading Likud spokesman on defence policy, said Israel's defence strategy was built on its ability to mobilise reserve troops and the land was needed to buy time for troops to get into position.

He said maintaining the Jordan River as a defensive line meant being able to send troops to the frontier without being subject to attack in hostile areas of the West Bank in between.

Some pro-withdrawal generals said accurate long-range missiles made it unnecessary to hold onto the territory as a buffer. But Saguy said territorial depth translated into extra time which was even more critical than before.

Alough Hareven, a former intelligence colonel and leading figure in the Peace Council, said ex-generals would play a key role in selling the public on the need

to get rid of the occupied lands. "The Israeli public is not sentimentally attached to Nablies, Hebron or other areas of the West Bank. What matters to them is the security dimension," he said.

Saguy, a former head of military intelligence, agreed voters would decide on the basis of security issues. But he said "no one sees an alternative to holding the territory right now."

Raphael Eitan, a former chief of staff and now a leading figure in the nationalist Tehiya Party, called on Israel radio for the annexation of all occupied land. "We must annex all of (the territory) and massively settle every square corner of the land of Israel," said Eitan, a legislator.

Saguy was forced to resign and Eitan retired after both were criticised by a judicial commission for failing to prevent the massacre of Palestinians by Christian militiamen in the Beirut camps of Sabra and Shatila.

Cape Verde: Best use for aid money

By Rebecca Irvin
Reuters

PRAIA — When life-giving rains begin falling in the tiny African nation of Cape Verde, the entire population from the lowest peasant to the president himself roll up their sleeves and set to work in the mud.

They have 10 days to plant three million trees.

Cape Verde hopes to turn its dry, barren islands into lush, green oases and it may well succeed. International aid workers say its anti-desertification programme is unparalleled in Africa for its scope and success.

The archipelago nation of 350,000 people almost 400 miles off the coast of West Africa comes under the Sahel belt and is beaten by harsh desert winds from Mauritania.

Although it is virtually an offshore extension of the Sahara Desert, Cape Verde has managed to plant 17 million trees since independence in 1975, even with a 20-year drought which ended with good rains in 1987.

Despite droughts, there has been no recurrence of the last severe famine in the 1940s which left almost 20,000 people dead. "When the rains start in August, we all leave the office and go out and plant. It's fun," said Basilius Fines, chief of staff for Prime Minister Pedro Fines.

"The prime minister is the first one to go. He or the president usually opens the campaign," she told Reuters during a recent visit.

Forestry experts say trees are crucial to drought-stricken areas because they stop erosion of the soil, hold water, provide firewood and eventually modify the micro-climate itself.

Cape Verde, a former Portuguese colony which was until recently one of the world's poorest nations, gets an average of 300mm (one foot) of rain per year, all of it within about 10 days in August.

Weather during the rest of the year is hot, dry and windy. "It's probably the only place in the world where they can get

trees to grow in such places," said Martino Meloni, representative for the European Community, Cape Verde's single largest donor. "It is a model for other countries."

A visit to Cape Verde quickly confirms the assertion that the anti-desertification programme is one of nation's most impressive achievements.

Prosopis trees, which the Cape Verdeans call "American acacia," dot even the driest, rockiest areas.

Driving around Sao Vicente, one of the most barren of Cape Verde's 10 islands, dusty brown hills are suddenly broken by a burst of green coconut and mango trees in an enclosed area fed by a well and protected by walls against the wind.

Although the islands vary greatly and landscapes range from lush valleys to flat dry salt pits, water is lacking everywhere.

"The basic problem here is water. But, on the whole, it's much better than other places in Africa. You don't have the desert slowly taking over," said Willy Salters of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Meloni said the community is drawing up a special manual on anti-desertification programmes based on the Cape Verdean experience for use in other Third World countries.

It will illustrate how to identify good terrain, prepare the ground for planting, select the right varieties of trees and get seedlings ready for the crucial moment when rains start. Even the hardest trees must have some initial water to take root.

In Cape Verde, about 85 per cent of the saplings survive. Cape Verdeans are also building dams, dykes, wells and water sheds — walls staggered along valleys — to help stop rain from rushing down the mountains straight into the sea.

Experiments are under way in solar and wind energy and a USAID project is even trying to collect water from fog.

BOOK REVIEW

favourable to Israel than those that might be obtained by direct negotiation."

He does not define precisely what he means by the West Bank. Nor does he commit himself to a solution for what must be the most difficult problem of all, the problem of Jerusalem, observing simply that "one proposal would divide the city into boroughs, united within a Greater Jerusalem Municipality." But the greater municipality would presumably have to be contained within either the Arab or the Jewish state, and Harkabi's implication appears to be that the Arabs would have some kind of "district council" status within an Israeli structure. This interpretation is strengthened by his fear

that, in the event of some Israeli threat to the Muslim holy places, "some or all of the forty Muslim states... might even demand that Jerusalem be placed under international administration of the walled city is almost certainly an essential condition of any peaceful settlement."

Finally, this thesis rests very largely on the demographic argument while ignoring the possibility that progress towards an Arab majority could conceivably be reversed.

Middle East International, London.

Israel's Fateful Decisions

By Yehoshafat Harkabi
I.B. Tauris, London 1988, £14.95

ONE indisputable advantage which Israel enjoys in its conflict with the Arabs is the freedom of expression permitted to its political theorists and commentators, and the consequent enrichment of its internal political debate.

Professor, former General, Harkabi is a powerful recruit to the ranks of dissent from the attitudes and policies of the governing coalition and of both its major components. He maintains that the perpetuation of conflict which now looks almost inevitable, while likely to do great

damage to the Arab states, is yet more dangerous to Israel because "even if today Israel is still stronger than the Arab armies, the Arab's ability to absorb losses is ultimately likely to reverse the balance of forces."

Even without war, moreover, Israel's present policy is heading for failure. Its logical conclusion is the annexation of the occupied territories, or at least of the West Bank and Gaza. Given this expansion, together with the higher Arab birthrate, "it has been calculated that by the year 2015

and thereafter the ratio between them will continue to change to the disadvantage of the Jews." Could Israel then be properly described as a Jewish state? Paradoxically, "annexation will lead to the realisation of the PLO dream of a democratic Palestinian state."

Annexation would not only be dangerous. It would be a departure from the policy to which Israel committed itself as recently as 1979. "The historical truth is that in the Camp David accords Mr. Begin conceded that the West Bank and Gaza Strip will not be part of Israel. Or, put another way, as some of his aides remarked on the spot, at Camp David Mr. Begin founded the Palestinian state."

Not only, in Harkabi's view, should the government of Israel return to the clear meaning of the agreement with Egypt. It should agree to negotiate with the PLO, recognition of which "is not a reward for its good behaviour but dictated by the function which it fulfils."

It is a brave, logical and constructive challenge. But it leaves a number of questions unanswered. On the matter of how negotiations might be started Harkabi seems to be undecided, saying at one point that "there is a need for international mediation" while arguing later that delay could lead to intervention by the superpowers and that "the conditions of such an imposed settlement would be less

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Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY AUGUST 16, 1988 5



A family takes shelter in a hut after turned homeless in flood-ravaged Khartoum

Sudanese build barriers in bid to block further floods

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Thousands of anxious people living along the Nile hurriedly built sandbag barriers Monday to hold back the river, surging towards its record 1946 flood level.

In the capital Khartoum, workers erected a wall of sandbags around the Kuwait-Sudan Centre, an 11-storey office block housing the World Bank, the U.S. AID mission and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Sudan has appealed for international aid to help an estimated two million people made homeless by floods in the last two weeks.

The official death toll has been put at 58, but diplomats believe it to be higher.

A statement from the Irrigation Ministry said the Nile was likely to reach a critical level in the next two days.

It said the river rose 29 centimetres on Sunday to 16.50 metres and was still rising.

The worst Nile flood this century peaked at about 17.14 metres in 1946, submerging most of Khartoum and large tracts of Sudan's northern region.

As the latest threat worsened, relief agencies said most of the victims in the capital of four million were still without shelter, medical care or sufficient food nearly two weeks after a 13-hour downpour started the flood crisis.

At least a dozen countries have sent emergency relief supplies, including tents, blankets, medicine and foodstuffs.

Authorities acknowledge that little has been accomplished so far in providing aid to the victims, but they blame insufficient supplies and the suddenness and scope of the catastrophe.

"In a matter of hours, towns and millions of people were submerged," Omer Al Din, head of the national flood emergency committee, said Saturday.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd personally donated \$8 million to help out and his country last week began an airlift of emergency supplies.

The Sudanese government minister heading the relief operation said Saturday the foreign aid provided so far amounted to just "a drop in the ocean" compared with the size of the problem.

While threatening disaster for Sudan, the flood will prove a boon to neighbouring Egypt. The Nile flows north from Sudan through arid Egypt to the Mediterranean and is vital to irrigate crops and generate hydro-electric power.

Eight successive years of below-average floods have depleted the huge reservoir behind Egypt's Aswan dam and forced the government to impose harsh conservation measures.

In Saudi Arabia, officials said they expected other members of the royal family to follow King Fahd's example in giving money to help the flood victims.

One official said a relief committee set up by the king could raise as much as half a billion Saudi riyals (\$135 million) in contributions from businesses and individuals.

The officials said Saudi Arabia had already sent more than 40 plane loads of food, medicine, blankets, tents and other equipment to Sudan, while 5,000 tonnes of relief supplies had left by sea.

The United Nations estimates 12,000 tonnes of food is needed to help feed the flood victims for a month. It is helping coordinate the response by international relief agencies and there are reports the catastrophe could get worse.

More rain is forecast for this month and into September.

Nimer: Talks produced positive outcome

(Continued from page 1)

Jordanians of Palestinian origin, Nimer said that "legally no citizen has the political rights outside the framework of his state."

"But if these are allowed to maintain PNC membership then a new formula will have to be worked out," Nimer added.

The question of dual citizenship can be raised after an independent Palestinian state is established, he said.

Nimer, who attended the talks with PLO delegation, said the idea of setting up a provisional Palestinian government was being considered by the PLO leadership.

Nimer did not say whether PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was expected to pay a visit to Jordan soon. But, he said, Jordan will welcome Arafat any time.

Gaza boils with protests

(Continued from page 1)

The army uprooted orchards in which Palestinians were hiding after they hurled a fire bomb at an Israeli vehicle near the Al Barji refugee camp Sunday, Israeli Radio said. Seven people were injured in the attack.

In the occupied West Bank, Israeli troops shot and killed a Palestinian early Monday, bringing the Arab death toll in more than eight months of anti-Israeli violence to 255. Soldiers shot and wounded a second man in the leg, hospital officials said.

Residents of the Qalandia refugee camp said that Ata Yussuf Aytat, aged 20, was beaten to death by the army while being held in jail during the night. They said troops came with the body early Monday and made the family bury him.

Residents later dug up the body to show reporters and to rebury.

Rabin paid a visit to the Gaza Strip and warned residents that Israeli troops would meet violence.

Visiting the territory where protesters defied the curfew, Rabin said Gazans would suffer the most in a contest of force against the army.

"Violence will be met by force, and it is better for the population in Gaza to realise that," he said.

Rabin said the curfew that kept 50,000 Gazans away from jobs in Israel would be in effect "as long as it is needed." It was the third time the Gaza Strip was sealed since the uprising started Dec. 8.

Despite the curfew, Palestinians darted out from behind garbage dumpsters and brick walls to hurl rocks at a 12-car military convoy carrying reporters, chief of staff Dan Shomron and southern commander Yitzhak Mordechai.

The convoy was forced to stop

Beirut mounts massive security drive

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon Monday prepared a massive security operation for this week's presidential election as fears mounted of armed clashes and a plot to sabotage the poll.

Local media said Monday threats from the hardline Lebanese Forces (LF) militia and an army mobilisation had raised fears of a military showdown before the election.

All army leave had been cancelled and troops were on standby in their barracks, they said.

"Concern is growing that the army and the Lebanese Forces could come to blows in Christian areas. The situation is nearing exploding point and only American pressure on the Christians can stop that," said the Al Safir newspaper.

Officials said scores of heavily armed police and troops would seal off the area around parliament on the green line where deputies Thursday will elect a successor to President Amin Gemayel.

They said the troops and police would escort the 76 ageing deputies to prevent any attempt to stop them reaching the 11 a.m. (0800 GMT) meeting at the building on the Museum Crossing between west and east Beirut.

Acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss had talks Monday with Interior Minister Abdallah Rassi, Communications Minister Joseph Hashem and army commander Michel Aoun. Officials said they reviewed security for the election.

"The plan aims at ensuring that the election session takes place despite the threats," one official said.

The Lebanese Forces militia, fearing the election of a president opposed to Syria's strong influence in Lebanon which could allow it to swing the outcome of the poll.

Rassi Sunday called on the 41 Christian and 35 Muslim deputies to contact security authorities if pressed by any militia not to go to parliament to vote.

A police statement said Monday the museum road near parliament would be closed to civilians from Wednesday afternoon and cars would be barred from parking along roads in the area.

Political sources said rightist militants appeared determined to foil the election of a Syrian-backed president.

They said the Lebanese Forces had avoided naming a preferred candidate, fearing that Syria would ensure he were not elected.

At least four politicians have announced their candidacies but scores more are regarded by local media as contenders and have been shuttling between Beirut and Damascus to win Syrian support for their nomination.

The United States has been negotiating with Syria to smooth the way for the election of a president acceptable in all camps.

A pro-Syrian political source said Syria favoured what he called a "strong" president even if he was not supported by all warring factions.

Other political sources told Reuters Monday that pro-Syrian former President Suleiman Frangieh and Aoun were regarded as the front-runners.

Both are strongly opposed by Christian hardliners.

Media have accused Aoun of ordering the mobilisation of troops to boost his own chances in the poll.

Al Safir said Aoun sought "to protect the election and at the same time protect his victory at the election session."

Roger Edde, a 46-year-old lawyer, announced Monday he would stand as a candidate dedicated to changing the country's political system.

He told reporters at the historic port city of Byblos, 40 kilometres north of Beirut, he envisaged a new electoral system and a strong economy.



Aftermath of a car bomb explosion in Beirut. Car bombs are seen as one of the major threats that the Lebanese Army has to tackle in its drive to ensure security for the deputies who will elect a new president Thursday.

Runcie presses Iran for hostage release

LONDON (Agencies) — Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie has urged Iran to use its influence in Lebanon to secure the release of British hostages, including his special envoy Terry Waite.

A spokesman for Runcie, spiritual leader of the Church of England, said Sunday talks with an Iranian diplomat were complete and had been "open and relaxed." Runcie and his senior assistant, John Lytle, met in London with Mohammad Reza said Mohammadi of the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

"The atmosphere has been considerably improved in recent weeks by steps taken by both the British and Iranian governments," according to the statement issued Sunday night from the archbishop's headquarters at Lambeth Palace.

"The archbishop has demonstrated his own good will for the improvement of Anglo-Iranian relations and his concern for the Iranian hostages in Lebanon."

"He is firmly of the view that any government which has influence that might bring about the release of hostages of whatever nationality should use it without qualification."

"We now look to Iran to use all its undoubted influence in Lebanon to help to bring about the release of Brian Keenan, John McCarthy and Terry Waite," the statement ended.

Runcie is heartened by improvements in Anglo-Iranian ties, including the visit to Iran by the first British diplomat in more than a year, David Reddaway, a spokesman said.

London and Tehran downgraded relations last summer when a British diplomat was beaten in Iran after the arrest in Manchester, northwest England, of an Iranian official on shoplifting charges.

On Sunday, the Observer newspaper quoted Iranian sources as saying the hostages could be freed within weeks. But a British Foreign Office spokesman could not confirm the report.

Keenan, a teacher with British and Irish nationality, disappeared in Lebanon April 11, 1986. TV newsmen John McCarthy disappeared April 17, 1986.

Waite was on a mission for the archbishop, seeking the release of

American hostages, when he disappeared Jan. 20, 1987, in Beirut.

The longest-held of the 18 foreigners missing in Beirut is an American, Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press. He was kidnapped March 16, 1985.

On Wednesday, Iran's charge d'affaires in London, Mohammad Basti, said Iran was "sincerely exploring the possibilities" of tracing hostages in Iran.

"Things seem to be getting more positive all the time. We feel advances are being made," said Terry Waite's brother David Waite. "The family is very optimistic that there will be good news soon but we are cautiously optimistic about how soon that will be."

Keenan, a teacher with British and Irish nationality, disappeared in Lebanon April 11, 1986. TV newsmen John McCarthy disappeared April 17, 1986.

Waite was on a mission for the archbishop, seeking the release of

Foreign powers always influenced Lebanon elections

BEIRUT (R) — Foreign powers have interfered repeatedly in Lebanon in its brief history as an independent nation and almost none of the country's eight presidents has been elected without heavy outside influence.

The views of outsiders, Syria and the United States in particular, will again weigh heavily on the minds of members of parliament when they meet Thursday to pick the ninth head of state, who under the constitution must be a Christian.

Lebanon gained independence in 1943 from France, which had ruled under a League of Nations mandate. Britain and France, vying for a say in the affairs of the new nation, contested the choice of the first president.

British-backed Bishara Khoury, who defeated France's candidate, Emile Edde, became the only president to serve more than one term after his six-year term was extended in 1949.

But he was forced to resign amid public discontent three years later and was replaced by Camille Chamoun, Lebanon's ambassador in London.

According to political contemporaries, Chamoun received British support in putting pressure of his more popular rival, Hamid Frangieh, to withdraw his candidacy.

The United States made its debut on the scene in 1958 when Chamoun asked for Washington's help to end a six-month war between his followers and Egyptian-backed rivals who opposed his rule and aspirations for a second term.

Washington dispatched its Sixth Fleet to restore order and, noting Chamoun's unpopularity with Muslims, discouraged him from seeking a second term.

Instead, the United States backed army commander Fuad Chehab, acceptable to Muslims and Egypt's President Nasser. Chehab, the third president,

presided over a period of calm, prosperity and increasing Egyptian influence.

No one foreign power alone was responsible for the election of the fourth president, Charles Helou, in 1964, but politicians say Egyptian and American approval was sought when his name was first mentioned.

He was succeeded in 1970 by Suleiman Frangieh, perhaps the only head of state elected by a parliament uninfluenced by undue foreign pressures.

Frangieh, now 78, has resurfaced as a possible candidate for Thursday's election, although he has not formally announced that he will stand.

Many Lebanese associate him with the outbreak of civil war in 1975, but politicians noted that he was a close friend of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and would have Damascus's blessing.

In 1976, Frangieh called in an Arab Deterrent Force to quell civil strife. Syria was left as the main foreign power broker in Lebanon when other Arab countries withdrew their troops from the force a few months later.

Damascus was the driving force behind the election of the sixth president, Elias Sarkis, later in 1976. Artillery battles between militias could be heard during the voting.

In 1982, Israeli troops invaded Lebanon, forcing out Palestinian fighters and Syrian troops and eventually bringing about the election of the seventh president, Bashir Gemayel.

Bashir, hardline leader of the Lebanese Forces militia, was elected at a military school in a Beirut suburb surrounded by Israeli tanks. Three weeks later he was killed by a bomb and replaced by his brother Amin. Gemayel, whose single six-year term expires Sept. 23, called in U.S., French, British and Italian peacekeepers to ensure an Israeli withdrawal.

He signed a withdrawal treaty with Israel but was forced to abrogate it after militias drove his army from west Beirut in February 1984.

The multinational force pulled out after becoming the target of a series of suicide attacks and Syria's influence again became dominant. It now has an estimated 25,000 troops stationed in two-thirds of the country.

Damascus brokered a peace pact to end the civil war, but Gemayel refused to endorse it because it increased the power of Muslims in government and recognised Syria's role.

For the past two years, a Muslim boycott has paralysed the government and isolated Gemayel.

This has led Washington to implicitly acknowledge Syria's position and consult Damascus on the problem of finding a successor to Gemayel who would be acceptable to all factions.

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Jordan widens economic liberalisation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government has adopted new measures to boost exports and encourage investments in the Kingdom in addition to easing protectionist measures favouring several local commodities. The following is a translation of a report by the Jordan News Agency, Petra on the measures.

A) — Licensing and registration:

1. Any investor and any ordinary or private shareholding company has the right to set up or expand any existing industrial and agricultural projects without obtaining any licensing from the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Ministry of Agriculture.

2. Public shareholding companies and owners of projects who ask for financial exemptions cited in the law for encouraging investments, should obtain the necessary licensing from the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

3. Investors should register all their investments in special files at the Ministry of Industry and Trade for purposes of follow-up and legal documentation. The ministry should complete the registration procedure within two days of the date of submitting the registration statement.

4. The minister of trade and industry as well as the minister of agriculture are to take the necessary steps to execute the above steps.

5. Facilitating the licensing of tourism agencies whereby a response is given within two weeks to all licensing applications for those applicants that meet the bases decided upon by the Higher Council of Tourism in paragraph H of the article 6 of the tourism law No. 30 for 1988. No applications are to be refused unless they violate the agreed-upon bases.

6. All ministries and official institutions and councils which require prior licensing or approval should submit recommendations to the Prime Ministry to ease the procedures within two

weeks of the date of this decision. These recommendations should include the bases and rules for facilitating licensing as well as the conditions of approval taking into consideration the annulment of such conditions where possible (applicable) in preparation of its presentation to the Council of Ministers.

B) — Investment unit:

1. A specialised unit at the Ministry of Industry and Trade will be established to follow up on all measures related to investments by Jordanian, Arab and foreign investors at ministries, official institutions and councils. The unit will process applications within a maximum period of one month from the date the applications are submitted.

2. The unit will establish a guide to illustrate the required procedures for investors in various kinds of investments.

3. The unit will prepare bulletins and printed materials to clarify incentives for investment; rules, regulations and procedures related to investment; in addition to the criteria based on which requests for incentives and exemptions are made.

4. The minister of industry and trade will establish a comprehensive structure for this specialised unit which will get the approval of the council of ministers one month from the date of this decision.

C) — Protectionism

1. The cancellation of all protectionist measures for industrial products in general, and their



Hamdi Tabbaa

replacement with protective (higher) tariffs instead.

2. Protectionism for the following locally-manufactured industrial products will remain: Tomato paste, tobacco and cigarettes, regular and pasteurised fresh milk, yoghurt, labaneh, and white cheese, mineral water and table salt.

3. Price controls, for products which have been exempted from protectionist measures, will be cancelled except for products priced by the Council of Ministers.

Encouraging investments

In the area of encouraging investments, the new measures exempted all imported capital goods from customs, fees and other taxes. The law for encouraging investment was amended based on the following principles:

— Defining the period of tax exemptions for economic projects in all developmental areas at five years, with a special fund to be set up to finance with easy terms projects in certain developmental zones.

— The Council of Ministers is empowered to cancel part or all of the tax exemption if it was proven that there were violations in production specifications for which the project was granted the exemptions. This would be done in accordance with recommendations by the minister of industry and trade.

— Approving exemptions from custom and other taxes and fees on imports for economic projects that have already been established and approved for exemption. This would be done after verification that what was imported had been used in the project. The concerned authorities will take all measures to facilitate the entry of exempted imports until actual verification is carried out and is ascertained that these imported goods become part of Jordanian products.

— Concentrating on the employment of the local labour force, added value and exports and adopting these considerations in relation to granting tax and custom exemptions.

— Defining the beginning of production for approved economic projects if it contained several production lines.

— Exempting projects from differences in prices resulting from fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

— Owners of projects enjoying exemptions are to present regular

reports to the Ministry of Industry and Trade to make sure that the specifications for which the project was granted exemptions are still in existence. The Ministry of Industry and Trade maintains the right to investigate these reports through field visits.

— For the above purpose, a committee will be established to draft the new investment encouragement law to include all the above principles. The financial, economic and planning committee will supervise the work of this committee.

— Granting tax incentives for venture capital companies to encourage the financing of viable productive projects based on the feasibility of these projects without counter mortgages.

— Shortening the period for the assessment of all requests for investment incentives to one month.

Encouraging exports

With regard to encouraging exports, the following measures were taken:

— The establishment of specialised companies to export Jordanian products. These companies will be given all incentives and exemptions granted to exporters.

— Increasing the number of trade centres in Arab and foreign countries and continuing the policy of setting specialised exhibitions.

— Appointing commercial attaches in Arab countries and the European Common Market, the United States and Japan.

— Merging the Free Zones

Corporation with the Industrial City Corporation.

— Commissioning the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Jordan to prepare a draft law on guaranteeing exports for the purpose of studying the possibility of granting financial facilities for Arab and foreign importers of Jordanian goods.

— Supporting exports through reimbursing the Jordanian manufacturer the production tax or custom fees or any other extra costs he incurred and entrusting the ministries of finance, industry and trade, energy and mineral resources and the Central Bank to present recommendations in this regard.

— Simplifying temporary entry and drawback procedures.

— Asking the Central Bank to study local credit procedures to support indirect exporters and the reasons hindering the use of these in Jordanian commercial practices.

— Rediscouping commercial papers such as export letters of credit with a rate less than the established interest in the banking system in a clear manner to encourage exporters and commercial banks to finance exports especially at the stage of production and before shipping.

— Expediting the enactment of a law on the specifications and standardisation.

— Establishing a higher council for exports that includes both the private and public sectors. The minister of industry and trade is to present a detailed report on the functions of this council.

Iraq abolishes state tourism body

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The government Monday abolished the state tourism directorate and said major hotels, restaurants and other facilities will be sold off or leased to the private sector.

A decree by the ruling Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) said the state-run assets to be privatised included seven major hotels in Baghdad, the war-battered southern port city of Basra and the northern city of Mosul, including two Sheratons.

The Basra Sheraton was damaged by shell and rocket fire during a major Iranian offensive against Basra in early 1987, in which some of the heaviest fighting

in the nearly 8-year-old Gulf war took place.

Monday's announcement came as Iranian and Iraqi leaders prepared to meet in Geneva Aug. 25 for peace talks under United Nations auspices.

The Iraqi move to sell off its tourist facilities is part of President Saddam Hussein's drive to develop his socialist-run country's private sector by selling off state-owned assets to stimulate the economy, badly battered by the war with neighbouring Iran.

No statistics were immediately available, but tourism to Iraq, rich in archaeological sites dating back at least 6,000 years, has been badly affected by the conflict.

The hotels will still be run by their parent chains in accordance with an agreement signed with the Iraqi government, officials said.

But managers at the hotels said they did not yet know if the facilities will be sold to Iraq's private sector or be handed over to their parent companies.

According to the RCC decision, which will not be sold will be taken, Aug. 2 those hotels leased.

ANNOUNCEMENT

On the occasion of Independence Day of Pakistan, a flag-hoisting ceremony will be held at the Chancery at 10.00 a.m. on August 17, 1988.

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday rates					
Local sell/buy rates in Jds					
Belgian franc (for 10)	94.6/	95.5	Saudi riyal	101.0/	102.0
Dutch guilder	175.4/	177.2	Syrian lira (for JD 1)	100.0/	102.0
French franc	58.4/	59.0	Lebanese lira (for JD 1)	850.0/	900.0
Italian lira (for 100)	26.7/	27.1	Iraqi dinar	500.0/	530.0
Japanese yen (for 100)	279.1/	281.9	Kuwaiti dinar	1335.0/	1345.0
Swedish crown	37.6/	38.2	Egyptian pound	164.0/	168.0
Swiss franc	236.4/	238.8	Omani rial	104.0/	105.0
U.K. sterling pound	637.2/	643.6	UAE dirham	103.5/	104.5
U.S. dollar	370.7/	374.7	Qatari riyal	990.0/	1000.0
Deutschemark	198.1/	200.1	Bahraini dinar	1000.0/	1010.0

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for August 15, 1988.

Regular market:	Number	Volume	Contracts
	122800	JD 147990	252
Top three companies:			
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing Industries	31450	JD 47430	79
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	8790	JD 10358	27
Arab Bank Limited	120	JD 12860	6
Parallel market:	3950	JD 1659	—
Development bonds:	1149	12253	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	120	JD 1320	—

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation	603507
Ministry of Supply	602121	Free Zones Corporation	642001
Ministry of Finance	636321	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Labour	663186	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Communications	647391	Association of Banks in Jordan	662258
Ministry of Agriculture	639391	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Income Tax Department	660151	General Statistics Department	846171
Central Bank of Jordan	630301	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Amman Customs Department	721181		
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.7080/90	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.2205/15	Canadian dollar	
	1.8830/40	Deutschemark	
	2.1265/75	Dutch guilders	
	1.5790/5800	Swiss francs	
	39.45/50	Belgian francs	
	6.3800/50	French francs	
	1394/1395	Italian lire	
	133.10/20	Japanese yen	
	6.4700/50	Swedish crowns	
	6.8800/50	Norwegian crowns	
	7.1930/80	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	430.80/431.20	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — After drifting aimlessly for most of the day the share market was marginally firmer at the close as investors chased industrial blue-chips. The All Ordinaries index was up 1.2 at 1,624.7.

TOKYO — Share prices managed to close the day firmer after drifting along in the year's lowest full-day volume. The Nikkei index rose 67.78 to 77,901.29.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed virtually unchanged after a dull trading day with turnover down to a 23-month low. The Hang Seng index was down 0.3 to 2,600.63.

SINGAPORE — Prices ended lower across the board for the fourth consecutive session on profit-taking and lack of buying support. The Straits Times Industrial index was down 9.32 at 1,122.78.

BOMBAY — Market closed for national holiday.

FRANKFURT — Shares closed slightly lower after lifeless trading, with dealers at a loss to find new buying or selling stimuli. The 60-share Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, was down 3.5 at 1,471.1.

ZURICH — Prices were slightly down in quiet and uneven trading ahead of Tuesday's release of U.S. trade figures. The All Share Swiss index fell 5.4 to 885.9.

PARIS — Market closed for Assumption Day holiday.

LONDON — Prices were pushed lower by fears about inflationary pressures in the British economy. At 1442 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was down 20.1 at 1,823.3.

NEW YORK — Stocks drifted lower on the view that U.S. economic activity was brisk enough to renew fears about inflation. The Dow was off 15 at 2,023.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-6

CONCORD

WELCOME TO 18

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

RAINBOW

NO MERCY

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

NIJOU CINEMA

Naked Vengeance
Shows at 3:30 and 6:30 and 8
2-A Variety
Artistic Show
and Dancing
Time: 10:00

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

PLAZA

SPRING
BREAK

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Roh proposes summit with North

Mass arrests, sweeping violence rock S. Korea

SEOUL (Agencies) — South Korean police Monday arrested about 1,200 demonstrators seeking talks on reunification with fellow students from the North, hours after President Roh Tae-Woo proposed a summit with northern leader Kim Il-Sung.

Roh, speaking on the 43rd anniversary of the Korean peninsula's liberation from Japanese occupation, said it was "imperative for top leaders of South and North to meet for a dialogue."

Roh's government, while cautiously pursuing contacts with the communist North, ordered police to block the students' planned meeting at the border village of Panmunjom. It said inter-Korean negotiations must go through official channels.

Apart from national reunifica-

tion, the students had also planned to discuss North Korea's demand to stage some events of next month's Seoul Olympic Games.

About 4,000 students who tried to leave Yonsei university in Seoul to march to the meeting, including delegates draped in the national flag, were immediately blocked by several thousand riot police ringing the campus.

Police dragged away about 200 students, some of them screaming with fear and pain. The students

huddled in groups as troopers beat them with fists and riot shields.

Senior police officers hit and slapped their own men to try to stop the beatings. One commander hit troopers with a riding crop.

"Protesters were kicked and punched, beaten with sticks and charged with rocks and tear gas by police ringing the campus," said one.

Police flanked by three armoured vans churning out skin-burning pepper gas rushed into the crowd at Yonsei University as protesters tried to break through cordons.

The students carried banners written in their blood saying "let's reunify the peninsula."



The last units of Soviet troops located in the province of Kandahar wave while withdrawing to the Soviet border on Monday.

Kabul recaptures Kunduz

KABUL (R) — Afghan government forces have recaptured the northern provincial capital of Kunduz which fell to Mujahideen rebels after Soviet troops left the area last week, President Najibullah said Monday.

"Kunduz is in the hands of the Afghan armed forces," Najibullah told reporters at the Afghan foreign ministry. He made the announcement after reading a slip of paper passed to him during a news conference.

Moscow radio reported Monday that half of the Soviet Union's troops in Afghanistan had left the country.

Under quadripartite Geneva

accords signed in April, Monday was the deadline for the first half of the 100,000 Soviet forces in Afghanistan to withdraw. The remainder must be out by Feb. 15.

"In accordance with the Geneva accords, 50 per cent of the Soviet troops have been withdrawn from Afghanistan," Moscow radio said.

There were no immediate details on how Kunduz, which has been the centre of fierce fighting for days, had been retaken by the Afghan army.

On Sunday, the commander of Soviet forces in Afghanistan acknowledged that the city had fallen

to the rebels but said Moscow's troops would not go back to help recapture it. Kunduz is just 60 kilometres south of the Soviet border.

Western diplomatic sources said Friday that the Afghan army still controlled Kunduz airport. They said Afghan troops had appealed for help from Soviet ground forces in the area but Soviet officials refused.

Lieutenant-General Boris Gromov, commander of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, told a news conference Sunday that his troops "were not taking part and would not take part" in combat operations in Kunduz province.

Ne Win invoked in effort to quell revolt

BANGKOK (R) — Burma's Socialist rulers, reeling from a week-long national revolt, have publicly invoked the name and ideas of veteran leader Ne Win to try to prevent more rioting.

Diplomats contacted by telephone in Rangoon said the official newspaper Botataung (Guardian) Sunday quoted statements

by Ne Win that the people should be consulted to settle problems.

Ne Win, whose replacement by another hardline Socialist Sein Lwin three weeks ago sparked protests in which hundreds of people were killed, ruled with an iron hand after taking power in a 1962 coup until he stepped down July 23 after in-

creasingly bloody demonstrations.

One of the last proposals of the man who eliminated all opposition to his policies combining Buddhism and Socialism and effectively ruled by decree, was for a referendum to decide whether to scrap the 26-year-old one-party system and adopt a multi-party democracy.

This was rejected at an emergency congress of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party after which the unpopular Sein Lwin emerged as leader.

Sein Lwin was driven from office last Friday after the nationwide uprising in which diplomats

said at least 1,000 people may have been killed.

Diplomats said the referendum idea was one possible course the leaders might be pondering now as they prepare for party and parliament meetings Friday to seek a successor to Sein Lwin.

They said the present role of Ne Win, 77, was unclear, but said there had been frequent meetings at his home in Rangoon.

Botataung quoted from a 1963 speech by Ne Win in which he said problems were bound to happen but that "discussions must be held between the higher and lower levels to resolve them."

Mexico opposition rallies

on eve of vote ratification

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Officials Monday began ratifying returns from bitterly contested races in the July 6 elections, following protests by opposition groups claiming the presidential balloting was rigged.

About 1,500 cheering supporters of the conservative National Action Party gathered Sunday at the Independence Monument in Mexico City for a speech by their candidate, Manuel J. Clouthier.

Demonstrators shouted "Maquico, Maquico," Clouthier's childhood nickname, and waved the party's blue-and-white flags. Some carried papier-mache effigies of Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the candidate of the governing Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

Leftist parties supporting candidate Cuauhtemoc Cardenas planned separate rallies in different parts of the capital and in provincial cities.

Both the left and right accuse the government and the governing party, which has held power since 1929, of using widespread fraud during the balloting and vote tabulations.

Rallies have been held almost daily to urge that an accurate final count be released. The nation's electoral college, responsible for ratifying the results, plans to meet through Aug. 31.

Official results announced a week after the election gave Salinas 50.36 per cent of the vote in the race to succeed outgoing President Miguel de la Madrid. Cardenas received 31.12 per cent and Clouthier was credited with 17.07 per cent. The electoral college will review the results and formally declare the winner.

Parties also have urged residents to protest with 15-minute blockouts at 8 p.m. every evening while the sessions last.

Laurel huddles with Aquino's opposition

MANILA (AP) — Opposition leaders met Monday to form a new political alliance after Vice President Salvador Laurel asked Corazon Aquino to resign the presidency and call new elections.

Laurel joined representatives of various opposition groups, including Senator Juan Ponce Enrile and Ferdinand Marcos' New Society movement, for the meeting at club Filipino, where Aquino took her oath of office Feb. 25, 1986.

"I am ready to subordinate all interests for the unity of the opposition because we must have a strong, cohesive, unified political opposition to give the country a choice," Enrile told reporters.

Enrile, the only opposition figure in the 23-member Senate, said the opposition fully supported Laurel and that "we are ready from today onward" to organise a new anti-Aquino party.

"We are just starting the evolution to unify the political parties," he said. "Maybe then the administration will know there is a quiet opposition strong enough to make a challenge."

On Saturday, Laurel accused Aquino of failing to provide strong leadership in the face of the communist rebellion and other economic and social crises.

Laurel promised to resign too if Aquino did so, but said he would stay in office and join the opposition if she refused.

Asked the president's reaction to Laurel's meeting with the opposition, spokesman Teodoro Benigno quoted Aquino as saying: "I was under the impression they were together all along."

Representative Rodolfo Al-

Polish police, Solidarity clash on anniversary

WARSAW (R) — Riot police wielding batons broke up a march by Solidarity supporters in the Polish city of Gdansk Sunday, the eighth anniversary of strikes which spawned the now banned trade union, official.

One hundred Zomo riot police moved in on more than 200 marchers chanting pro-Solidarity slogans on a river quay in the Baltic port and fighting broke out, opposition sources said.

At least 20 young people were beaten and detained. The clashes followed a mass and then a rally by 3,000 people addressed by Lech Walesa, leader of the union which was outlawed in 1981.

State-run television news said six policemen were injured in the fighting but added "the police attitude" prevented further serious disturbances.

A newsreader said about 200 youths marched through Gdansk after an "aggressive" sermon at the mass by Father Henryk Jankowski. They disrupted a fair and stoned police.

The official news agency PAP said the marchers demolished a cafe garden and chanted "down with communists."

The opposition sources said by telephone from Gdansk that the clashes started after one of the marchers, who were joined by people attending the fair, threw a chair from a nearby cafe into a line of riot police waiting on the quay.

The fighting lasted about 15 minutes before the crowd dispersed, added the sources, who asked not to be identified.

They said some 10,000 people had earlier packed Saint Brygid's church and nearby streets to hear the mass celebrated by Jankowski, a close adviser to Walesa. At the rally, held in the church-

yard, Walesa said Solidarity should draw up plans for evolutionary rather than revolutionary changes in Poland.

He called a meeting at the church Aug. 28 to discuss a text outlining Solidarity's future plans which would be made available to the authorities in advance of the meeting.

Solidarity has called on workers to post lists of demands on pay and conditions Aug. 31, the eighth anniversary of agreements signed with the government which led to the formation of the first free trade union in the Soviet Bloc.

Preparations underway for historic nuclear test

PAHUTE MESA, Nevada (AP) — U.S. and Soviet scientists, ignoring a diplomatic gaffe half a world away, are conducting rehearsals for this week's historic nuclear experiment that will mark a milestone in the atomic age.

Wednesday's test blast comes nearly four years after President Ronald Reagan first proposed such a project.

The joint verification experiment is designed to measure each country's ability to monitor the size of the other's test. Verification could lead to ratification of treaties limiting the size of nuclear tests, which were signed in the 1974 and 1976 but never ratified.

Scientists from the United States and the Soviet Union will be measuring the explosive punch of a thermonuclear device encased in a steel canister buried 625 metres beneath a picturesque mesa in the middle of arid wilderness.

Soviet scientists were allowed to look at the canister, but only after the nuclear device had been sealed inside.

The two superpowers will be testing their own monitoring systems. The United States will be using a system known as Correx — continuous reflectometry for radius versus time experiment — which determines the yield of a nuclear explosion by measuring the shock waves from the blast.

The Soviets will be testing similar systems to see if they obtain the same data. The data for both sides will be recorded in trailers hundreds of yards from the blast site. No one will be allowed within 25 kilometres, except for helicopters monitoring the site with television cameras.

Systems to measure the size of an explosion are considered a key in ratifying the 1974 threshold Test Ban Treaty and the 1976 Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

China child policy cuts population

PEKING (AP) — China's one-child population policy has resulted in 104 million fewer births in the past decade, the state statistical bureau said Monday. Bureau officials said reduced population growth in the 1978-87 period will save the state one trillion yuan (\$270 billion) in educational and other costs, the official Xinhua news agency reported. China now has more than one billion people, one-fifth of the world's population. In 1978, shortly before the government initiated its policy of one child for each couple, the population stood at 962 million. In 1949, when the communist government took over, the nation had 542 million people.

Kohl urges help for emigrants

BONN (AP) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl made a nationwide appeal Sunday for West Germans to help out the growing number of German-heritage emigrants arriving in this country from the East Bloc. Speaking on the ZDF television network, Kohl said it was "shameful" that some West Germans resent the newcomers. "I can only say, that they have my heartfelt welcome, because they are Germans like you and me," Kohl told a ZDF interviewer. "This is money well-spent," Kohl said, referring to the millions of dollars spent to resettle the emigrants each year.

British legislators ignorant on defence

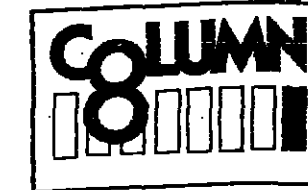
LONDON (AP) — Most British legislators do not know who is the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's (NATO) supreme commander, and many lack basic information about Britain's defence, according to a survey. Of the 171 members of parliament polled by Gallup, 22 per cent knew the Soviet Union has ballistic missile defences, the Galosh system around Moscow, which has been updated, the pro-conservative Sunday Telegraph said. The survey said 92 per cent of legislators questioned could not name NATO's new supreme allied commander in Europe, Gen. John Galvin, and 82 per cent were ignorant of the man appointed to succeed Lord Carrington as NATO secretary-general — Manfred Woerner.

Pope marks end of Marian year

ROME (AP) — Pope John Paul II presided over the ancient "liturgy of the incense" Sunday night at Saint Mary major basilica in a solemn rite marking the end of the Roman Catholic Church's year dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The Marian year, as it was called, was designated by John Paul II for special devotion to Mary. It began June 7, 1987, and concludes Monday — Assumption Day — with rites at Saint Peter's Basilica at the Vatican.

Philippine rebels burn U.S. flag

MANILA (AP) — Leftists burned a U.S. flag Monday in front of an American garrison in a demonstration against the presence of U.S. bases in the Philippines. About 50 members of the Youth for Democracy and Nationalism burned the flag in the street outside the headquarters of the joint U.S. military advisory group in suburban Quezon City. Protesters demanded the government close the six U.S. installations, which include Clark air base and the Subic Bay naval base. Since April, U.S. and Filipino negotiators have been discussing terms for the last two years of a 1947 agreement under which the Americans maintain the bases.



Ferrari dies

MODENA, Italy (AP) — Enzo Ferrari, Italy's greatest sports car builder and racing pioneer, died at his home in Modena, his auto company announced Friday. He was 90. In a statement released to the Italian news agency ANSA, the company said, "Enzo Ferrari serenely ended his earthly life Sunday, Aug. 14." Ferrari had been suffering from a kidney ailment. The company statement said Ferrari's son Piero, mother Lina and wife Fiorana were at his side when he died. No other details were given. The founder and chairman of the company bearing his name that makes luxury sports cars and renowned Formula One racers once dreamed of becoming an opera star or a sports writer.

Pacific biggest cultural festival

TOWNSVILLE, Australia (AP) — Dancers, singers, artists and musicians from 24 Pacific island countries and territories Monday launched the 5th festival of Pacific arts to the rhythm of drums and the sway of grass skirts. Designed to save Pacific culture from extinction and first held in 1972 in Fiji, the festival is now one of the major cultural events in Pacific life.

'Rambo' visit comes under fire

LONDON (R) — A planned visit to London next weekend by U.S. actor Sylvester Stallone to promote his "Rambo III" film drew fire Monday because it coincides with the first anniversary of the massacre of 16 people in an English village. "Maybe in some way he can be told that this film is coming out at an inopportune time," said Michael McNair-Wilson, a conservative member of Parliament whose district includes Hungerford village. "My constituents still have an open wound." Armed with an AK-47 rifle and dressed in combat fatigues, Michael Ryan gunned down 16 people in the village 95 kilometres west of London last Aug. 19 before killing himself. The British press dubbed the crazed gunman "Rambo" after the Vietnam war veteran portrayed by Stallone in the series of violence-packed action films.

Snoozing Reagan ad cancelled

VANCOUVER, Washington (R) — A fast-food chain has cancelled an advertisement that depicted a snoozing President Reagan after it received numerous calls complaining the advert was in poor taste, a chain official said Saturday. The advert by the Burgerville U.S.A. chain, which was pulled from four newspapers in Oregon and Washington, showed Reagan with his eyes closed wearing headphones. "You can usually tell when someone skips breakfast," said a caption underneath. The advert said the chain, based in Vancouver, serves a nutritional breakfast which provides tremendous energy. Reagan's picture, obtained from the NBC television network, was taken when the president was attending a meeting in Bonn. According to George Propstra, chairman of Holland Incorporated, the chain's parent, the company checked to be sure Reagan did not have breakfast the day the picture was taken.

'Superman' banned in China

PEKING (AP) — A leading newspaper Sunday criticised officials for yanking "Superman" and at least four other films from Peking's movie theatres after they opened to packed houses. In a rare plea from the official press, the China Youth News called for measures to protect against such "lawlessness." The report said "Superman" was one of at least five movies that have been closed since 1985 by officials after the films started playing in the capital's movie theatres. It said officials had "Superman" stopped in early 1986 because they did not want China's youth "to be incited with the film's impossible idealism." The story is of an almost omnipotent flying alien who fights crime on planet Earth.

Schoolboy offers to sell kidney

NAIROBI (AP) — A Kenyan schoolboy, claiming poor parents and fruitless efforts to raise school fees, has offered to sell a kidney to anyone needing a transplant. "This may enable me to get the money required to meet my educational costs so long as there will be doctors to carry out an operation," successfully, F.A. Euko wrote in a letter to the daily Nation.

U.N. gets a dusting-off and polish

By Victoria Graham
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — After years of being scorned as ineffective, the United Nations is making a comeback as a potent instrument of international peacemaking, an old idea whose time has come again.

Blue-helmeted U.N. peacekeeping troops are peering through binoculars from the beaches of Cyprus to the mountains of Afghanistan. About 350 soon will monitor a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, and they are likely to be deployed in southern Africa and Kampuchea under emerging peace pacts.

The United Nations owes its revitalised role to the superpowers' improved relations and their interest in redirecting resources from regional conflict to economic development. If the organisation is on a roll, it is because the superpowers have decided the time has come to exploit it.

Recent mediation between Iran and Iraq, leading to a

planned ceasefire Aug. 20 in their eight-year-old war, has been the major accomplishment of Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the Security Council.

It followed a U.N.-brokered settlement in April between Afghanistan and Pakistan, providing for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan after nearly nine years.

The Afghan settlement was the culmination of years of patient diplomacy. When the Soviet leadership decided to cut its losses and withdraw, the United Nations was there. A force of 50 unarmed U.N. observers is monitoring the withdrawal, which is to be completed by Feb. 15.

"As rarely before, we can see the organisation's potential for peace, its utility as a trusted good officer," Perez de Cuellar said last week. "Its peacemaking and peacekeeping can yet bring hope to those afflicted by endless violence."

The momentum is building. A major U.N. role is foreseen in Cyprus, where U.N. troops

are separating Greek and Turkish communities on the divided island, and in Kampuchea to end the Vietnamese intervention.

U.N. troops are also expected to monitor a troop withdrawal from Namibia, occupied by South Africa in defiance of U.N. resolutions, and a transition to independence in the territory.

For years, massive U.N. work in refugee aid, family planning, economic and agricultural development, childhood inoculation, teacher training and other areas was overlooked as the world focused on the organisation's inability to end conflicts. Suddenly, years of diplomacy seem to be bearing fruit.

For all the fanfare, the United Nations is desperately short on funds.

The Soviet Union, the first of the superpowers to rediscover the United Nations as a tool of foreign policy, is now paying its back dues and peacekeeping arrears. Moscow now hails the organisation as a forum for

"new political thinking."

The United States, by contrast, is the biggest U.N. debtor. It has been withholding about \$467 million in regular budget payments over several years and about \$70 million in peacekeeping dues.

For years, the United States denounced the organisation as an intrusion upon its sovereign right to act unilaterally and said it didn't like leftist U.N. policies. It charged the body with squandering funds on Third World causes and refused to pay until reforms were promised.

Now, Washington praises U.N. accomplishments in Afghanistan and in the Gulf. But the money is not forthcoming.

"Now we face a new irony," Perez de Cuellar said. "At the very time when the pursuit of peace quickens its pace throughout the United Nations, bankruptcy threatens to close the organisation."

If the United States and other debtor nations do not come up with funds soon, the

organisation could close this fall.

The United Nations, successor to the League of Nations, was created in 1945 as an organisation of peace-loving states repelled by World War II. Its aim was to maintain peace and security and work for social progress.

One of the organisation's most enduring problems in the last 40 years has been the search for a resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Each time the region has been threatened by war, the United Nations has sent impartial observers or peacekeeping forces. It has launched five peace-keeping operations since Israel was created in 1948, during which time six wars have broken out.

The first U.N. observer operation in the Middle East was the U.N. Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO). Created in the 1948 war to supervise a truce, UNTSO has remained to monitor armistice agreements between Israel and the Arabs.